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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT



Issue No 63
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November 19, 2008

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HUNDREDS OF FANTASTIC SAVINGS TO BE HAD ON BOARD WITH

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FUNDING BID FOR SCHOOLS IS REJECTED

Council bosses missed off vital information

BLUNDERING council chiefs have had a multi-million pound school funding bid rejected by government officials – after leaving out vital information from their submission.

Council bosses applied for cash to rebuild its crumbling primary schools in May, but were sent back to the drawing board empty-handed this week.

More than £3.5 billion was handed out to local authorities across England, including £31.7 million to Kent County Council.

A team of Department for Children, Schools and Families consultants will

EXCLUSIVE

BY SIMON ROBINSON

now work with Medway council chiefs to help them re-write their submission. It is thought the bid blunder could lead to a delay in key redevelopment work of Medway primary schools when other local authorities will be pushing ahead with construction.

Medway Labour group members slammed the council's "substandard bid", saying they raised concerns well before the submission date.

Councillor Bill Esterson said: "This is an abject failure by the council. I will be asking senior officers and the

portfolio holder which elements of the bid were so poor it was refused.

"I and the other Labour councillors on the committee pointed out the submission was weak when it was rushed to overview and scrutiny in May, and we feared then it would be rejected.

"As usual, the arrogant Tories could not brook any dissent and we were told that, barring a few tweaks, it would be submitted. We must also remember that this council is supposed to be running the new academies scheme – how can parents trust them after this?"

"The Tories should apologise – not to us, even though they ignored our justified concerns – but to parents, schoolchildren and teachers in Medway, for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Picture: ROGER WALSH/WWWWENTV.CO.UK

KELLY RUNS RULE OVER FEATHERBY

Double Olympic gold medallist Dame Kelly Holmes turned substitute teacher last week when she took two PE classes at a Gillingham school.

The Team GB star, who sensationally won both the 800m and 1,500m races at the 2004 Athens Games, put pupils through the paces at Featherby Junior School on Friday.

Dame Kelly set up a number of challenging drills for the Year Three and Five students, ranging from skipping to sprinting.

The inspirational athlete said: "It is fantastic to be able to visit schools like Featherby Junior School and I thoroughly enjoy sharing my Olympic experiences with the children and showing them my medals.

"Clearly sport is very important to this school and all the teachers have done a fantastic job in encouraging the children."

FULL STORY ON PAGE 4

AND SEE VIDEO CLIP OF DAME KELLY IN ACTION ON YOURKENTV

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SMILES BETTER: Jonathan Shaw MP with Princes Avenue postmaster Barry Vera

'Strong case' for reopening towns' sub-post offices

■ BY JON COATES

THE Conservative leader of Medway council has called for post offices across the towns to be reopened in the wake of Government moves to secure the future of sub-offices across the country.

Cllr Rodney Chambers, who represents Hempstead and Wigmore, said the decision to award the Post Office Card Account 2 (POCA2) contract to local post offices provided a strong case for four Medway branches to open their doors once again. Cllr Chambers said: "Post offices provide important community support for all, but especially the elderly and disabled who rely on sub-post offices to gain access to benefits. "The decision to allow the Post Office to keep the card account has put an end to years of uncertainty and secured the future of post offices. "There is clearly now a strong case to reopen post offices to ensure that those who rely on their services are not disadvantaged."

The Government's decision to keep POCA2 within the remit of the Post Office was welcomed by Medway postmasters, who said the move had saved thousands of branches nationwide from certain closure. Luton postmaster Kulvir Bhela



SUPPORT: Cllr Rodney Chambers

said: "We are excited by this news. Many of my elderly customers were terrified of losing this service. There will be a sense of relief throughout the community."

Princes Avenue postmaster Barry Vera added: "The Post Office's card account is a fabulous service, enabling pensioners to get cash more or less anywhere in Britain."

"Post offices are important to communities so this is great news for everyone in Medway and Kent."

Labour MPs Jonathan Shaw and Paul Clark also welcomed the Government's decision.

Gillingham and Rainham MP Mr Clark said: "I'm thrilled. I have received more letters about POCA2 than any other issue this year."

"The card account brings in important revenue to post offices locally, some of which are already under great strain as it is."

Chatham and Aylesford MP Mr Shaw said: "This is good news. The card account is an important source of income and brings customers through the doors of post offices across the country."

The card account was introduced in April 2003 to help support the conversion of some customers from order books to Direct Payment.

It was aimed at those who did not already have a suitable account and was designed as a stepping stone to help people who had not used a bank account before get used to banking before moving on to an account offering more features.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Terminal unloads supertanker gas

THE UK's largest ever delivery of liquefied natural gas has arrived at a newly-expanded terminal where it will be pumped into three storage tanks each the size of the Albert Hall.

Power company Centrica delivered the cargo on the Al Khuwair supertanker to National Grid's Isle of Grain facility.

The 330-metre vessel is the first of its size to arrive in the UK and its cargo is enough to supply 4.5 million customers for a week in winter.

Terminal manager Simon Fairman said: "Facilities like this are essential for security of supply and to be able to access markets around the world."

"It has taken three years and £355 million to build this. We are proud to have the Al Khuwair here to allow us to commission the terminal."

Trust earns praise

MEDWAY NHS Foundation Trust has been recognised for its patient care.

The trust is one of only four in England where more than 80 per cent of patients with fractured hips had surgery within two days of admission.

Its efforts were mentioned in this year's Dr Foster Hospital Guide, published this week.

Trust chief executive Andrew Horne said: "We believe in a board-to-board commitment which sees that top level decisions deliver actual benefits for patients and we are pleased this has been recognised."

"We will continue to build on this to ensure patients remain confident we are working hard to deliver high standards of infection prevention and control, treatment and care."

Fair transformation

A WIDE range of stocking-fillers will be on offer at Hempstead Valley from Monday during the shopping centre's annual Christmas gift fair.

Everything from jewellery to candles will be available from stalls until Sunday, December 7.

Centre manager Mark Rumfitt said: "The gift fair is always popular with customers. It transforms the malls and exhibitors include Pollyfields decorations, Relish Chocolates of Strood and Goosie Goosie educational toys."

"And the Tablecloth Company from Medway will be showing shoppers how to decorate a Christmas dining table."

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Speed camera trials target new offences

Mobile phones and seat belts under scrutiny

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

MOTORISTS who illegally use their mobile phones at the wheel face being caught out by eagle-eyed speed camera operatives as part of a three-month trial extension of their powers.

The Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership crews are now also on the look-out for drivers who are not wearing their seatbelts.

If the pilot stage proves a success, the partnerships' extra responsibilities could become permanent – resulting in a flood of new fixed penalty notices being handed out.

Partnership chairman Ian Proctor said: "Our camera operators see offences other than speeding being committed at camera sites.

"Safety cameras are only in locations where people have been killed or seriously injured, so by reducing the number of offences committed at these sites we hope to lower casualties even further.

"We will not issue fixed penalty notices



WATCH OUT: If the current trial of safety cameras proves successful a flood of new fixed penalties could be handed out

during the pilot stage as we hope that sending letters to vehicle owners will be sufficient to deter people from committing further offences."

Chief Inspector Roscoe Walford, of Kent Police, added: "This is about using the resources available in a more dynamic way in an attempt to reduce the number of people being seriously injured or killed.

"There are four main factors that contribute to collisions that end with serious consequences; speeding, being distracted while driving – such as talking on the telephone – not wearing a seat belt and drink driving.

"The use of the Kent and Medway Safety cameras will help address three of these factors.

A partnership spokesman urged motorists to

become safer drivers by belting up and switching their phones off.

They said: "Besides the obvious consequences of being fined or facing a prison sentence, talking or texting on a phone has been shown to impair a driver's ability to the same extent as if they were above the legal alcohol limit.

"Last year 95 people died in road traffic collisions in Kent and Medway – 18 of them had not been wearing their seatbelts and may have survived if they'd belted up.

"If you have a collision at 25mph unbelted, it is like falling from a two-storey building, at 40mph it is like falling from six storeys, and at 60mph it is like falling from 12 storeys."

• Email yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk

'In-store' cycle for BBC charity

CHARITABLE Specsavers staff completed a 100-mile cycle challenge on Friday, raising hundreds of pounds for Children in Need.

The relay team raced through the miles on a static bike set up at their Gillingham High Street branch.

The Specsavers' cyclists – who donned fancy dress costumes for the duration of the fund-raiser – were supported by hundreds of well-wishing shoppers as well as Gillingham FC players Andrew Crofts and Andy Pugh.

Store manager Craig Holland, who spent the day dressed as The Hulk, said he hoped their efforts would raise a minimum of £500 and paid tribute to everyone who supported their cycle challenge.

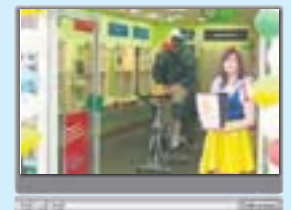
Store director David Moorman added: "We were really pleased to be able to contribute to this worthwhile appeal, and have some fun while we do it. By holding this event we wanted to raise as much as we can so that even more disadvantaged children can be helped."

It is not yet known how much money the cycle challenge raised.

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See the Specsavers staff during their fund-raiser. Search 'cycle'

Council blunder in funding bid

FROM FRONT PAGE

delaying the improvement of their primary schools through sheer incompetence."

Labour group deputy leader Glyn Griffiths said: "The Conservative-run council has put at risk millions of pounds of investment into local primary schools because their plans were not up to scratch.

"It is a disgrace that the council is now relying on Government advisors to rewrite the strategy which most other councils in the country were able to achieve on their own.

"Medway's Tory cabinet report card would read: 'Zero for attainment – must try harder'."

Children and adult services director Rose Collinson said: "We know we haven't been successful in our initial primary capital funding bid. The DCSF wanted more detail on how the strategy would impact on schools below floor targets, on surplus places and on promoting choice and diversity.

"They also wanted more evidence of our delivery capacity.

"Neither the amount nor the timing of the funding should be affected by the need to strengthen our strategy and we'll be working closely with DCSF officers to ensure we have a bid which meets their criteria submitted by the end of January."

Clark keen to help quash anti-social behaviour problem

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

MP PAUL Clark has written to police chiefs calling for a 'dispersal plan' to tackle anti-social behaviour across Medway.

The Gillingham and Rainham Labour MP said nuisance crime is a major problem and has been driving his constituents out of the area.

Mr Clark said: "I have had families come to my office in just the past few months saying they are leaving Gillingham because they cannot cope with the disturbance and misery from anti-social adults and young people on the streets and in nearby homes.

Difference

"That is a dreadful situation and it must stop.

"Just a few months ago I carried out a survey of more than 9,000 people in Gillingham and Rainham, and while many said they felt secure in their neighbourhood a concerning number of respondents said otherwise.

"As long as I am receiving news like

that, I will continue to push for more action on anti-social behaviour."

Mr Clark highlighted the success of a dispersal scheme in Herne Bay.

According to Kent Police's website, "the Heron ward dispersal area was originally planned to last for three months", but the scheme has "made such a difference to the community" that it has been extended until January 2009.

Mr Clark said: "The police have taken really tough action in Herne Bay using government legislation. I want to see something similar in Gillingham. I have written to the Chief Superintendent at Medway Police Station and asked if he would be prepared to meet me to get the ball rolling."

A successful dispersal scheme was introduced in Rainham during the winter of 2006 around the shopping centre and Station Road areas.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Fundraising to the fore
as golfers support unit

EAGER golfers clubbed together to raise more than £10,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

The Rochester and Cobham Park Golf Club members presented the money during a cocktail evening this month.

Ladies' captain Lynn Ellis said: "We were delighted to help as the new Macmillan Cancer Care Unit is so important for local people."

"We have an active ladies section here. Raffles, a hog roast, silent auction and charity day were some of the ways we raised funds."

Community partnership
cleans up neighbourhood

RESIDENTS and police pulled together on Saturday to improve the area around the Millennium Centre in Rainham.

The community clear-up was organised by PCSO Martin Stevens as part of a Partners And Communities Together group event.

PCSO Stevens said: "I'm delighted everyone was so willing to give up their free time to improve their neighbourhood."

"Projects such as this encourage residents to take pride in their area while building a stronger, safer community."

Two road-users injured
in separate accidents

A MAN and a woman were taken to Medway Maritime Hospital after being injured in separate car crashes.

The woman suffered shoulder and side injuries in an accident on the London-bound carriageway of the M2, shortly after passing the junction three Walderslade turn-off, at 5.40am on Tuesday last week.

A 45-year-old man was taken to hospital at 4.20pm after suffering arm injuries when a car and a motorcycle collided in Impton Lane, Chatham. His injuries were described as "not life-threatening".

Mouth cancer warning
signs to watch out for

HEALTH experts are highlighting the most common symptoms of mouth cancer as part of an awareness campaign.

Medway NHS Foundation Trust's Debbie Evans said the number of cases of mouth cancer had increased by 30 per cent in the last ten years.

The Macmillan nurse specialist said: "Early detection and treatment is critical. It increases the chances of survival, allows for less invasive treatments and results in a better quality of life for survivors." Find out more at www.mouthcancerfoundation.org.

Tips campaign wins
pizza chain support

BY SIMON ROBINSON

MEDWAY'S Labour group has launched a Fair Tips campaign, calling on businesses to pass 100 per cent of tips on to their staff.

The drive aims to stop firms deducting cash from the tips jar to cover walkouts and breakages, and comes after the Government closed a loophole that allowed companies to make up their staff's minimum wage through tips.

Cllr Vince Maple is calling on Medway businesses to sign the Fair Tips Charter and is also urging Medway council to back the scheme.

The Chatham Central councillor said: "Thousands of residents who work in Medway's pubs, hotels and restaurants stand to gain if the council backs the charter."

Congratulated

"It is shocking that many pub and restaurant chains keep the tips we leave for staff, particularly when we pay by credit or debit card."

"This practice should end now and waiting staff should get 100 per cent of the tips they work hard for."

Pizza Hut, which has a restaurant in Chatham Maritime and a takeaway in Chatham, has already signed the charter.

Cllr Teresa Murray said: "I want to congratulate Pizza Hut for distributing tips fairly and recognising that the minimum wage is just that, the minimum, and any tips are a bonus awarded to the staff by satisfied customers."

"I'd like to see all restaurants and hotels in Medway following their example so customers



POINT TAKEN: Fair tips campaigners Cllrs Vince Maple and Theresa Murray with Pizza Hut staff in Chatham

are certain their tips are allocated fairly to reward staff for good service."

Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw has voiced his support for the campaign.

"People see this as a basic issue of fairness," he said. "I am pleased the Government has decided to change the law so tips received by staff must be paid on top of the national minimum wage, not as part of it."

"If our mission over the last ten years has been to create basic standards of protection, our mission over the next decade must be to

find new ways to help employers and working people achieve more than the minimum."

Pizza Hut employee Robert Heathfield said he was delighted the company had backed the campaign.

"Fair tips is better for workers and we at Pizza Hut Dockside are very pleased that Cllrs Maple and Murray and Mr Shaw are promoting this campaign."

"We urge every restaurant in Medway to treat their staff with fairness and follow our example."

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There is nothing like Dame Kelly

DOUBLE Olympic gold medallist Dame Kelly Holmes put pupils through their paces on Friday when she visited Featherby Junior School.

The inspirational athlete spent three hours at the Gillingham school, giving a speech to the whole school before taking charge of two PE classes. Year three and five classes were coached through drills involving cones, balls, skipping ropes and benches.

Dame Kelly said: "It's fantastic to be able to visit schools such as Featherby Junior and I enjoy sharing my Olympic experiences with the children and showing them my medals."

"Clearly sport is very important to this

school and the teachers have done a fantastic job in encouraging the children."

Headmaster Paul Green said: "I'm extremely pleased our school was selected for a visit by Dame Kelly."

"Featherby Junior has always used sport as a vehicle for learning and to have Dame Kelly visit us was inspirational. I hope it will encourage the children to continue to include sport in their lives."

Dame Kelly also visited the B&Q store in Gillingham to meet staff and talk to them about her Olympic experiences before signing autographs and posing for photographs with customers.

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FINAL STRAIGHT: The Medway Park running track is scheduled for completion in July, next year

Park plans quick out of the blocks

BY SIMON ROBINSON

OLYMPIC chiefs are racing ahead with the multi-million-pound redevelopment of the Black Lion Leisure Centre, having already overcome a number of tricky hurdles.

Bosses behind the £11 million Medway Park project have seen the projectile hall refitted for use as a state-of-the-art judo room and have now turned their attention to the Gillingham complex's planned running track.

The contract was awarded to G Thornton Ltd earlier this month and is expected to be completed by July 2009.

All works must be finished by spring 2010, when the centre will host the Modern Pentathlon World Cup.

Medway Park will then be used as a pre-London 2012 training camp for 13 Olympic and eight Paralympic sports, ranging from athletics to indoor volleyball.

A council spokesman said the redevelopment project was going well.

"The first part of the work to be completed was the judo hall, providing an area for two full training mats, plus viewing area and changing rooms," he said.

"Smaller pieces of work are being undertaken as part of the refurbishments.

"These include work on the flat roof and repairs to the swimming pool, due to be started in the New Year.

"Work to the bar area will also be completed in this financial year."

Medway Park has been approved as an Olympic pre-games training camp for athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing,

MEDWAY PARK PLANS

- Twelve-court, multi-use sports hall suitable for national and international competitions
- Specialist gymnastics centre
- Eight-lane athletics facility for all track and field sports
- Dedicated martial arts centre
- New 100-station health and fitness suite
- A 25-metre, six-lane swimming pool
- Dedicated sports therapy and sports science centre
- Free-weights area
- Dance studio
- Diving pool
- Fully integrated disabled access and changing suitable for individual and team requirements

fencing, gymnastics, indoor volleyball, judo, modern pentathlon, tae kwon do, trampolining and wrestling. It will also be used in the run-up to the Paralympic Games for athletics, boccia, goalball, judo, volleyball, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair fencing and wheelchair rugby.

The spokesman said the centre would benefit Medway residents for years to come. "The plans are designed to deliver benefits for both 2012 and beyond. They will benefit the sporting elite and the community at large and meet the needs of the burgeoning Universities at Medway campus and the new MidKent College development," he said.

Council chiefs are due to discuss the development of Medway Park at a meeting tomorrow.

Nigel and Nichola tie knot at the double

CELEBRITY doppelgangers were out in force in Rochester to help celebrate Joe Pasquale lookalike Nigel Wright's wedding.

Nigel and bride Nichola wed at Medway Register Office watched by Billy Connolly, Borat and Ricky Gervais impersonators.

Elvis sang a few classic tunes after the vows had been exchanged. And there were double-takes at the reception when the real Joe Pasquale arrived to help the couple celebrate.

To view this clip, visit www.yourkenttv.co.uk where the couple have uploaded the Meridian News clip.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Waiting list efforts hailed in NHS book

HEALTH manager Stephen Griffiths' work in slashing waiting times has been hailed in a new NHS book.

The Medway Foundation Trust's head of imaging has been featured in 60 Extraordinary Stories, a book published to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the National Health Service.

Mr Griffiths made the grade after reducing medical imaging waiting times, including x-rays, CT scans, MRI scans and ultrasounds, to just two weeks – beating the Department of Health's target of six weeks.

The health professional said he was delighted to feature in the book.

"I am thrilled to be acknowledged, but the achievements in the imaging department really are testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone in the team," he said.

"We've managed to make these reductions by introducing increased service hours from 8am to 8pm over a seven-day week.

"Usage of the MRI and CT scanners has also been increased, making them available 84 hours a week instead of the previous 35 hours."

Dockyard service to boost HMS Gannet

CHATHAM Historic Dockyard Trust's annual carol service will take place at the Royal Dockyard Church on Tuesday, December 16.

The Dean of Rochester, the Very Rev Adrian Newman, will lead the service, supported by Rochester Cathedral boys' and men's choirs with an ensemble from the Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers.

Light refreshments will be served in the Royal Dockyard museum from 6.30pm.

Tickets must be booked by December 12 on 01634 823815. A minimum donation of £5 per adult is suggested, with under-16s free. Proceeds will help renew the rigging of Victorian naval sloop HMS Gannet.

Gambling on shelter

SMOKERS could soon be protected from the elements during their night out at the bingo, after Gala submitted plans to build a shelter outside its Strood hall.

The company has sought permission from Medway council to construct the shelter outside the Medway Valley Leisure Park club for the sole use of its members.

The roofed structure would house fruit machines, giving hardened gamblers the opportunity to smoke and gamble at the same time.

Medway council expects to make a decision on the proposal by Christmas.

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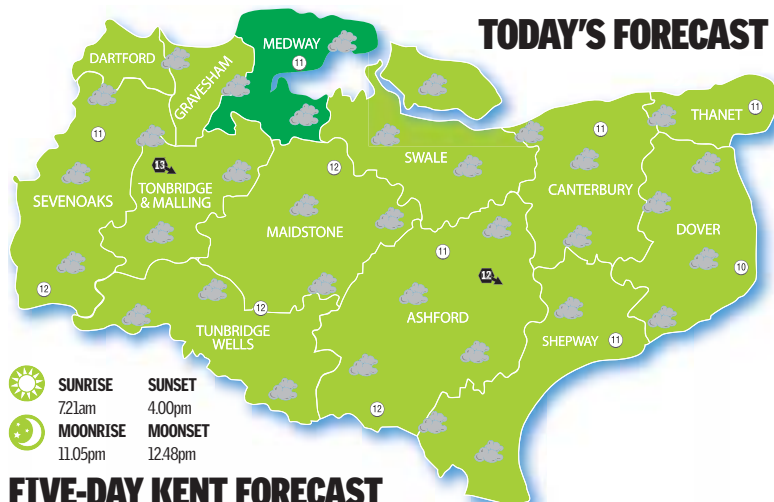
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Chatham	Saturday	6:24pm	5.4m
	Sunday	6:45am	5.2m
Dover	Saturday	4:57pm	5.6m
	Sunday	6:20pm	5.6m
Dungeness	Saturday	4:24pm	6.3m
	Sunday	5:45pm	6.1m
Ramsgate	Saturday	5:27pm	4.2m
	Sunday	6:50pm	4.2m
Sheerness	Saturday	6:12pm	5.2m
	Sunday	6:33am	5.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	6:19pm	4.7m
	Sunday	6:31am	4.7m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	10°C	Madrid	16°C
Athens	19°C	New York	10°C
Barcelona	14°C	Paris	10°C
Beijing	5°C	Rome	16°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	19°C
Cape Town	20°C	Tenerife	23°C
Cardiff	10°C	Tokyo	18°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	12°C
Hong Kong	26°C	Warsaw	4°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	17°C

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NEWS IN BRIEF



School's TV bid for £50,000 Lottery cash for wildlife hut

WILDLIFE fans at Spinnens Acre School are urging our readers to back their bid to win £50,000 of Lottery money to build an onsite woodlands cabin.

Youngsters at the Lordwood junior school have been fund-raising for the project for the past two years and are hoping the People's Millions will help them reach their cash target.

The school will feature on ITV Meridian at 6pm on Monday, where it goes head-to-head with another community project for a chance of winning the cash.

If they lose, viewer votes become all important and could see the school qualify for a runner-up prize at the end of the week.

Spinnens Acre business manager Clair Wilkins said: "The cabin will offer pupils, the wider community and wildlife enthusiasts the opportunity to observe and photograph wildlife including nesting birds, hedgehogs and insects."

"School discos, tag days and sponsored events have helped towards fund-raising. The youth service has been a great help too and it helped clear the woodland."

"Winning the People's Millions will provide us with a really big chunk of the estimated £80,000 needed to complete the project."

"We need everyone in Medway to vote for us."

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	11°C	12°C	12°C	9°C	6°C	Gravesend	12°C	12°C	13°C	10°C	6°C
Canterbury	10°C	11°C	12°C	8°C	5°C	Maidstone	11°C	12°C	13°C	9°C	6°C
Chatham	11°C	12°C	13°C	10°C	7°C	Ramsgate	10°C	11°C	12°C	8°C	5°C
Dartford	12°C	12°C	13°C	10°C	6°C	Rochester	11°C	12°C	13°C	10°C	7°C
Dover	10°C	10°C	11°C	8°C	6°C	Sevenoaks	10°C	10°C	11°C	7°C	5°C
Faversham	11°C	12°C	13°C	10°C	7°C	Sittingbourne	11°C	12°C	13°C	10°C	7°C
Folkestone	10°C	10°C	11°C	8°C	6°C	Tonbridge	10°C	12°C	12°C	9°C	6°C
Gillingham	11°C	12°C	13°C	10°C	7°C	Tun Wells	10°C	12°C	12°C		6°C

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QUESTION & ANSWER

LOUIS PASSFIELD



Q What is your role at the University of Kent and what does your job entail?

A I am a professor at the University of Kent and head of the centre for sports studies. The centre provides the university's academic sports courses (such as degrees in sports therapy, sports science and sports management) and also engages in sport, health and exercise-related research. It's my job to lead the team towards achieving our ambition of being one of the best sports departments in the country.

Q Tell us a little about yourself.

A After I completed a degree in sports science I got a job as a sports scientist working for the British cycling team. Over the next six years I worked with most of Britain's leading cyclists, helping them prepare for World Championships, the 1994 Commonwealth Games and the 1992 Barcelona and 1996 Atlanta Olympics. After this I went back to study for a PhD before going into lecturing. About five years ago I started doing a bit more research for British Cycling and this resulted in me being seconded to them for two years to assist in the preparation for the Beijing and London Olympics. I moved to the University of Kent a year ago.

Q What are the best bits about your job?

A I am fortunate to lead a great team here at Kent and I have a job that reflects my passion: teaching, studying and working in sport.

The most rewarding aspect for me is being able to make a difference. Whether it's for a student, an athlete, or adding to our scientific understanding, I always find it satisfying.

Q And the worst parts of the job?

A I hate failure, and sport and academia both involve aspects of winning and losing. Probably the worst situation is underachieving: particularly having to fail students who have the ability but haven't tried.

Q What do you think are the University of Kent's biggest draws?

A The university is more about providing a student experience than other universities I've worked at and lecturers are committed to providing all round learning support. We also have a super new campus here in Medway with some excellent facilities. I think within a few years the Medway campus will come to be recognised as the leading campus within the South East. It's got good access to London and Europe, and a growing body of staff and students who are ambitious and motivated.

Q You're the university's sports chief. What is your own favourite sport and do you still find time to play it?

A Take a wild guess! Although actually, I probably do more running than cycling these days, because it's easier to pop out for a run than a bike ride, and I hate having to clean my bike. Cycling is one of my passions. I don't race any longer though; I ride for fun.

Q What are your hopes for the London 2012 Olympics? Do you see Britain winning more gold medals?

A My hope for the London Olympics is that it can provide people with more than memorable medal winning performances. It would be marvellous if the legacy of London 2012 can be that it provides inspiration and opportunity before and after, and not just during the Games.

I do envisage a greater medal haul for Britain in 2012, and I anticipate this being spread over a greater number of sports than the British Olympic team achieved at the Beijing Games. Here at the University of Kent we are doing what we can to support talented local athletes as well as more high profile teams.

Q What do you like to do in your spare time?

A My wife and children usually have a list of things for me to do on my days off! Having moved to the area only relatively recently, I like to explore places of interest whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Q Tell us something about you that most people don't know.

A I went to an unusual school in Scotland where lessons weren't compulsory. I finished without great academic qualifications. But I learnt that such freedom and responsibility can nurture self-confidence and independence. And with hard work, it is astonishing what can be achieved.

Q & A

Professor Louis Passfield spoke to **Simon Robinson** about encouraging excellence at the University of Kent's Medway campus and working with the all-conquering Olympic British cycling team

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Take a look behind the scenes at setting up this year's Construction Expo. Search 'expo'.



Father Christmas and his helpers touched down in the county town for the festive countdown. Search 'Fremlin'.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

yourkenttv.co.uk

Don't be mourning on Christmas morning

Police launch drink-driving campaign

A HEART-TUGGING campaign has been launched by road safety experts in a bid to crack down on deaths caused by drinking and driving.

And in a special roadshow which this week got under way touring the county, the message is being taken into the major shopping centres.

The campaign is centred on a Christmas tree display and is hoped to hit home as companies start staging festive parties and lunches in the run-up to the big day.

The tree bears a banner with the slogan "Christmas Mourning? Drinking and Driving Wrecks Lives" to remind motorists that the morning of the big day could take on a very different meaning.

Imagery

The display also includes a lone unwrapped present among wrapping paper to represent those killed by drink-driving who will not be opening their gifts this year.

The campaign started in Maidstone town centre on Monday and arrived in Tunbridge Wells the following day.

It is due in Westwood Cross, Thanet, tomorrow (Wednesday) and Canterbury on Monday next week.

■ BY NICK AMES

Steve Horton, road safety team leader for Kent Highway Services, said: "Approximately 250 people in Kent were killed or seriously injured by drinking and driving in the last year."

"Drinking and driving wrecked their lives and the lives of those around them. We hope that by taking a Christmas tree out and about a little bit early, we'll get people's attention and get the message across before the festive season really begins."

The campaign will run until mid-January to capture New Year festivities, too, and includes bus-back advertising, billboards, posters, leaflets and a TV advert.

As part of the campaign, police will be carrying out roadside tests to check the co-ordination and spatial awareness of any drivers who they suspect have been drink-driving.

Motorists are also being asked to remember that they could still be over the legal limit the morning after drinking and if police are called to attend a crash, everyone involved will be automatically breathalysed.



MESSAGE: The Christmas tree will be spreading the word of not drinking and driving over the festive period



BUSY: There has been no change in traffic volume

Business as usual for toll crossing

HOPES of cutting pollution levels in and around Dartford by introducing a 50 per cent increase on the crossing toll have yet to materialise.

The change in charges was introduced on Saturday night – dropping the charge altogether between the hours of 10pm and 6am, but increasing it during the day.

Cars must now pay £1.50 – up from £1 – with lorry charges increased, depending on size, to £2 or £3.70.

Kent Green Party officials had said they hoped the increase would lead to a reduction in traffic, as seen when the congestion charge was introduced in central London.

There were also concerns of traffic chaos, with fears of extra congestion as drivers tried to get through the tunnel or over the bridge before the free period ended.

But on Monday – the first business day under the new charge system – officials reported it was very much business, and volume, as usual.

A Highways Agency spokesman said: "There were no real problems brought about by the new charges."

"However, on Monday morning there was an accident on the bridge which led to tailbacks. This was nothing to do with the charges, which we thought we made people fully aware of by the amount of publicity we gave."

There was no reported increase or decrease in traffic levels, either over the weekend or in the morning rush-hour on Monday.

The AA also said it had received no concerns from drivers – despite last week saying the move could lead to "dangerous driving patterns" as motorists looked to avoid peak-time crossing.

"We haven't had any complaints," said a spokesman.

Doctors to close early for training afternoon

GP surgeries across much of the east of the county will close early on Wednesday next week for staff training.

Surgeries in Swale, Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Deal, Shepway and Thanet will be closed from 1pm-6.30pm on November 26.

Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust (PCT) has organised a primary care

educational afternoon to provide an opportunity for protected learning time for staff in GP surgeries.

These afternoons provide the opportunity for GPs to attend lectures and discuss and debate current issues around NHS services. Practice staff also have the chance to use this time for training within the practice or to attend one of

the training sessions organised by the PCT.

Local out-of-hours services will provide cover for the surgeries, so anyone who needs to see a doctor urgently will still be able to do so.

If a patient does need to see a doctor urgently on one of these afternoons, they need to phone their practice in the normal way and they will be told what they need to do.

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We're making a clean break with the past

PUPILS have been learning about the importance of hand-washing to stop the spread of infection.

KOS Media's Clean, Safe and Healthy campaign, which has been raising awareness about superbugs, is now focusing its message about hand hygiene on the county's young people.

Launched in the wake of the Healthcare Commission's damning report into two outbreaks of Clostridium difficile in west Kent hospitals, the award-winning publisher has been working with the NHS to highlight how everyone has a role to play in the battle against killer bugs.

Pupils at Selsted Primary School, near Dover, have already been learning about how proper hand-washing can protect people from infectious diseases.

Headteacher Kevin Bailey said: "It is incredibly important for them to realise that without washing hands they are spreading germs, risking their own health and also their friends and those around them."

He said the 75 youngsters at the school, aged between five and 11, had been learning about basic hygiene as part of the Government's healthy schools initiative.

The school's small size and sense of community has helped spread the healthy lifestyle message and soon the children will be growing their own food in the grounds, he said.

"It is about health and hygiene, physical fitness and keeping your hands clean after the toilet, before and after eating and after playtime," Mr Bailey added.

Lucas Sotirion, Elizabeth Fraser, Jake Saxby



and Jessica Saxby, all aged ten, interviewed one of the school's cleaners about her job. All of them said they were shocked to find that the boys' toilets were cleaner than the girls. Lucas said: "I appreciate more what my mum and the cleaners do because it is quite a hard job."

Elizabeth told KOS Media how the dirtiest parts the school included chairs and tables. She added: "Keep where you live clean and it will prevent germs spreading to you and harming others."

Jessica said the girls' toilet needed to be looked after more. Her twin, Jake, added: "The computer room is very important place to clean, especially the keyboards because lots of hands touch them. We have learnt to wash our hands with soap and water so when we eat germs won't go into our mouths."

Isabel Woodroffe, assistant director of communications at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent and a governor at the school, said it was never too early to learn the importance of good basic hygiene. "It is all part of growing up to be a healthy person," she said.

"Especially because the schools are doing

cooking classes now, they have to understand that they need to have clean hands. If it is ingrained at this age, it will stay with them for life."

When KOS Media visited the school last week, the primary care trust had brought along a UV light box so the children could see the dirt on their hands gleaming in the dark and watch how it disappeared after thorough hand-washing.

"We have done a lot of discussion work and activities such as making posters," Mr Bailey said.

Teacher Carol Thurman, who led the healthy schools status project, said the hand-hygiene message was drummed into the children when they did cookery lessons.

Examples of slogans from the brightly coloured posters made by the children include 'when we cook we wash our hands' and 'we always wash our hands'.

• If you would like hand hygiene posters for your school, college or university, email keith.privett@kosmedia.co.uk.




LATHER GOOD: Pupils at Thames View Junior School in Twyddall have championed KOS Media's Clean Safe Healthy campaign by putting our eye-catching posters above wash basins at the Medway school

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 Pupils at Selsted Primary School have been learning about hand hygiene. Search 'Selsted'

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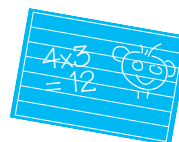
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Students learn it's OK to follow their ambitions

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

ASPIRING newshounds at the University of Kent were given a taste of the high-powered world of celebrity magazines when they met American OK! Editor Sarah Ivens.

Ms Ivens, a Kent graduate, made a flying visit to the university's Chatham Maritime centre of journalism from her New York offices on Friday, November 7.

The editor delivered a magazine masterclass, telling the students how she launched OK! in the US while still in her 20s and handing out tips about how to handle the pressures of working on a best-selling weekly magazine.

Ms Ivens said: "My advice to students is, of course, to work and study hard, but I also stressed to them how important it is to enjoy the whole experience."

"Being a journalist is one of the best jobs you could ever have. It's vital to appreciate how lucky you are and how many other people want your job."

"I really loved my time at Kent – they were among the best days of my life."

First-year journalism student Kelsey Williams said the talk was inspiring.

She said: "I didn't really have an idol in the world of journalism before, but I have found one in Sarah."

"Her amazing story shows what can be achieved with hard work. We could all relate to Sarah as she told us she started out on the bottom rung of the career ladder."

Ms Ivens graduated from Kent in 1996 with a degree in politics and economics.

After spells at Tatler and Marie Claire magazines, she became a feature writer for the Daily Mail before returning to magazines as features director with Woman's Journal, rising to the position of associate editor.

She also worked for the Mirror Group and had a second spell at the Daily Mail, as assistant editor of Femail, before becoming deputy editor of OK! in London, subsequently launching the US edition of OK! in 2005.

Ms Ivens is also the author of seven best-selling books, including A Modern Girl's



AT THE TOP: Sarah Ivens shares her experience

Guide to Etiquette and A Modern Girl's Guide to Getting Hitched. She says her future ambitions include writing more books and helping to launch new international versions of OK! in an editor-at-large capacity.

The university's professor of journalism Tim Luckhurst said Ms Ivens was a role model for many of his students.

He said: "As a Kent graduate who has reached the top of the profession, she sets a great example."

"Journalism offers tremendous opportunities to people with the talent and application to make the grade. It's not easy, but the rewards are real."

BREAK TIME



NEXT LEVEL: Michelle Gammo-Felton described the benefits of studying at degree level to a range of students at MidKent College

Youngsters are aiming higher

STUDENTS at MidKent College were given a crash course in finance, housing and other useful areas in a bid to prepare them for university life.

The youngsters also completed a range of workshops focused on helping them to develop the personal and social skills needed to make their time in higher education a success.

Other issues included money management, how to choose the right course and how to get through the clearing process.

The Aim Higher course was run by the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts' participation officer Michelle Gammo-Felton.

She said: "The workshops have been a real success and have been extremely well attended."

"All the learners who have come along have done so because they want to know more about progression to university, not because they've been told to, which indicates that MidKent College students have a real interest in higher education."

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yourmedwayblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in and around Medway...



You've all gone soft – and not because of the damp

REMEMBER, remember, the fifth of November, gunpowder, treason and plot. You remember the rest.

But where did it all go wrong? Who decided that bonfire night celebrations could start at the end of October and carry on for at least a fortnight?

Pity pet owners for starters – and people with young children. When I was growing up they had one night of the year when they had to keep their cats, dogs and rabbits indoors.

Now it goes on for weeks. And it's time it stopped.

Anyone over a certain age will have grown up with 'penny for the guy?' on every street corner.

In the days before health and safety worried about children keeping the full complement of four fingers and a thumb on each hand, kids in masks were allowed to get away with begging to raise enough pennies to buy themselves bangers and rockets.

Streets where I lived would actually guard their bonfires to make sure no one set them

ablaze before the allotted evening, while we tried to find a way to burn them at least a couple of nights before.

As the big night approached there were various theories about how to get the pile of sodden rubbish and wood to catch.

More than one lad I knew found that petrol vapour is more explosive than the fuel in the can – losing eyelashes, eyebrows and most of their centre-parted fringe in the process.

Happy days. And when November 5 would come along – at least when I grew up in the Seventies – I recall it always seemed to rain. Normally that misty drizzle that slowly soaks through every layer you wear.

But you would NEVER cancel the fireworks because of rain. Guy Fawkes night is supposed to be wet, cold and not actually that pleasant.

Yet this year every organised display seems to have been moved at least once. Last Thursday (November 13, seven days late) the school local to me was suddenly ablaze with a rescheduled display. No warning, no chance for me to encourage my traumatised cat indoors.

Just lots and lots of noise and flames light-

ing the sky. Blame cheap fireworks from China if you like. Blame the greed of shops and supermarkets who know there's a few quid to be made. Or blame every school, Scout group and pub for wanting to get a slice of the bonfire night action.

Blame, if you like, the health and safety mob who, perhaps 20 years ago, slowly drove the street bonfire out of public favour with tales of hideous maiming and encouraging us all to public displays (then they made them impossible to organise as well, but that's another story).

But goddammit, it's a British celebration and, even if we have to use Chinese explosives, we should keep it alive and perhaps drive out that nasty US import trick or treat. I would fully support local byelaws insisting that fireworks displays are held on November 5.

And if it rains, bad luck. That'll make next year something to look forward to.

• **EDITOR'S NOTE:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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Write to The Editor, Yourmedway, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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Al Murray's Happy Hour: The British Comedy Award winning Al Murray's Happy Hour is released on DVD, giving fans the chance to revisit the Pub Landlord's critically acclaimed first series.

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name, address, and daytime telephone number to DVD Giveaway, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR.

The closing date for entries is November 27, 2008.



Question: Three Men in a Boat is a famous book written by which author?

- a. JK Rowling
- b. Jerome K Jerome
- c. Robson & Jerome

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SUSAN POPE

Tell us a little about yourself.

At 64 years of age I am on the cusp of retirement, but with the publication of my debut novel this month, life is taking on a new chapter. My husband lost his sight several years ago and much of my time is spent caring for him.

What's the name of your new book and what's it about?

My book is called *Lighter Than Air*. It is primarily a love story set in two time scales.

The newly published author talks about her book and how she hopes her sales will help medical research

It tells the story of modern RAF war hero, Jonno Amis, who relives the life of airship mechanic, Karl in the 1930s in a fascinating past-life time-shift to pre-war Germany and the era of the giant Zeppelins.

What hopes do you have for the novel?
I would like to feel that everyone who buys a copy of my book will enjoy it. I loved writing this story and I want to share it with as many people as possible. I have nominated The Special Trustees Of

Moorfields Eye Hospital to benefit from sales of my book. My husband's blindness is through the inherited eye disease Glaucoma. I want to contribute towards the research being undertaken at the hospital. For more details see www.susan-pope.co.uk



YOUR LETTERS

Caught short by too few public toilets

Have you noticed we don't have any public toilets, run by our council, in Chatham?

Now you must remember we pay for public toilets in our council tax. The only two public toilets we have are run by the Pentagon and they are only open during shopping hours. We need public toilets at the Town

Everyone needs to use the privy at some point

My partner and I wish to comment on the letter in last week's paper sent by email by Peter Nassan from Chatham regarding the lack of public toilets.

We do agree there is a need for more public toilets in Chatham High Street, but we disagree it is only the elderly who need the toilets, we believe other people who require the use of public toilets are pregnant women and people with illnesses/disabilities, like my partner, who is diabetic.

Jon Hughes and Patrick O'Connor,
from Chatham, by email.

Taxing us even more won't fix the economy

How unfair it is yet again for people in the South East to bear the brunt of yet more Government taxes, this time on cars.

It seems that if there is a way of raising cash Gordon Brown will stop at nothing to find it – and if it involves misery for us in Kent, then that is all to the good.

Why can't this Government see that increasing taxes on everything is a sure fire way to make sure the economy does not have a chance to recover.

Mike Pitt,
by email.

Why do people celebrate a failed terror attack?

It's said time and again every year but nothing changes.

So is there anyone out there who reads this who will honestly admit why they continue with this nonsensical carry on of letting off fireworks three, four or even five days after the celebration – if that's what it is – of an event that actually didn't take place and that would have involved murder?

The celebration of Guy Fawkes, who was not the leader of the non-event and wasn't British, and can only be described along with the others involved in this failure as terrorists, is a farce.

Do the adults who continue with this stupid behaviour have nothing better to do on the evenings after the fifth of November but create a continual nuisance for all the rest of us who prefer to enjoy our evenings without disturbing others.

Go for a drink, have some friends round, just do it quietly, it's not too much to ask surely?

What juvenile pleasure do you get?

Totally confused from Cliffe,
by email.

Don't miss out on this constructive opportunity

The EON Community Investment Fund is available to all communities across the Hoo peninsula and is aimed at supporting effective projects that will help genuine community needs.

A total fund of £100,000 has been allocated for the construction period of 2007 to 2010, with an additional £25,000 for 2008.

If you have a project in mind, you can apply for funding. It could be anything from building a football pitch, putting in disabled ramps at the community centre, improving playgrounds for children to funding an allotment.

However big or small the project, it will be considered.

Already this fund has supported the following projects: Kent & Medway Walking Bus, Stoke Village Hall, High Halstow Youth Club, St James Church, High Halstow Play Park, Frindsbury Cricket Club, Grain Youth Club, UJ Community Partnership, Grain Over 45's Club, Allhallows Youth, Hoo Youth Club, 50th Strood Scout Group, 1st Cliffe Woods Guides, CHUMS, Cliffe Woods Primary School, Hoo Badminton Club, Girl Guiding Hoo, High Halstow Cricket Club, Hoo St Werburgh Churchyard, Cliffe Woods Pre-School, Grain Fete, St James CofE Primary School, Spendiff with Yantlett Guides.

For more information and an application pack please contact me by emailing rebecca.williams@ruralkent.org.uk.

Becky Williams,
project co-ordinator for
Action with Rural Communities in Kent,
by email.



Geri helped to light up a rainy day at switch on

I was at Bluewater for its Christmas lights switch on and saw Geri Halliwell. She looked great and the fireworks were incredible.

I will go back to try the ice-skating when it is not raining.

Laurence Thomas,
comment posted on Bluewater lights switch on
video clip at www.yourkenttv.co.uk.

Most of us don't have the technological ability

Your business pages last week reported that people working from home is becoming more common as people take on second jobs to beat the credit squeeze.

But surely there is only a small number of people who have the skills necessary to keep this going.

www.hempsteadvalley.com

find your Christmas

Christmas Grotto

Opens 5pm Thursday 13th November
until 24th December

Visit Father Christmas in his Frosty Wonderland for £4 and receive a FREE gift. See website for full opening times. Book your experience at: <http://tinyurl.com/santagrotto>

Christmas Gift Fayre

Monday 24th November to Sunday 7th December

The malls will be filled with stalls selling a wide variety of traditional, unusual and tempting gifts perfect for Christmas. Whilst you're at the Fayre, enter our FREE competition to win a luxury Christmas hamper!

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COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourmedway.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourmedway.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest news from across Medway as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourmedway before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out. On www.yourmedway.co.uk you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly acclaimed e-editions.

The charity is calling on all intrepid trekkers to explore the hidden joys of the Himalayas and discover new and exciting cultures with breast cancer research.

Running from April 4 to 17 next year, this two week expedition combines awesome views from the world's highest mountain range with the chance to explore India's exiled Tibetan community.

After discovering the delights of Delhi, India's bustling capital, your challenge will begin at the Tibetan centre of Dharamsala, home to the Dalai Lama.

There you will be able to explore the many temples and monasteries before travelling through lush evergreen forests alongside the Uhl River, uncovering various Hindu settlements and Buddhist monasteries on the way.

The trip would not be complete however without a stop at the Taj Mahal, where you will have the chance to explore one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

The Dalai Lama trek is a completely unique experience and is the perfect chance for our supporters to explore a new and diverse culture while raising vital funds for breast cancer research.

Participants are requested to register by Christmas.

If you would like to receive more information about Campaign's Dalai Lama trek, or about any of the charity's other overseas challenges, please contact the events team on 020 77493700, email treks@breastcancercampaign.org or see www.breastcancercampaign.org.

We look forward to hearing from you.

The events team
Breast Cancer Campaign

Challenge yourself to help charity

Break out from the ordinary and fuel your passion for adventure with Breast Cancer Campaign's Dalai Lama trek.

The company I work for is forever having computer problems requiring an IT expert to come along and sort them out.

I haven't a clue when it comes to modern technology – so I won't be joining the so-called "eBaypreneurs".

Simon Hamilton,
by email.

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CHRISTMAS FETE

Father Christmas is visiting
St. Peter's Infant School, Holcombe Road, Rochester
Saturday 29 November 2008
between 10am - 12midday
Lots of stalls, raffles, cakes & games
Small change and plenty of smiles welcome!

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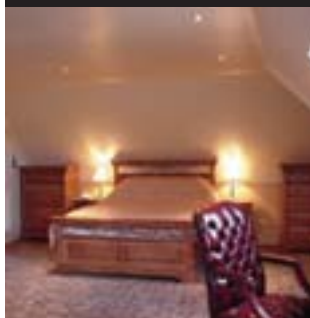
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Picture: ALASTAIR MUIR

SLAPSTICK: The cast of Noises Off perform two plays in one, as the bungling characters attempt to hold together a performance of Nothing On

Bare naked comedy fun

Performance is a dramatically good disaster

MISSED cues, fumbled lines and annoying props plague the flustered cast in acclaimed comedy Noises Off.

Michael Frayn's hit show features a play within a play, as a beleaguered theatre company struggles to pull its latest production together. Described by many as one of the funniest comedies ever written, Noises Off promises to be a comic romp with breathless entertainment from beginning to end.

The cast includes Maggie Steed, star of TV series Shine On Harvey Moon and Pie In The Sky, former Dr Who Colin Baker and Ben Hull, who played Lewis in teen soap Hollyoaks.

The actors are really put through their paces as they pack in all the action and laughter in not one play, but two, Making their exit from one production straight into another, they keep the laughs coming at relentless speed. With the action tak-

NOISES OFF

Monday to Saturday November 24-29
The Churchill, Bromley



ing place both onstage and off, there is non-stop chaos taking place wherever the audience looks.

The title refers to noises which originate from off-stage and the inspiration for the play hit Frayn when he was watching a comedy from the wings. In 1982 he wrote Noises Off and it became an immediate hit, reaping numerous award nominations and accolades.

It is the winner of both Tony and Olivier Awards for Best Comedy and enjoyed a successful revival at London's National Theatre in 2000.

Noises Off is played out over three acts, telling the story of a theatre company trying to stage a dire British sex comedy called Nothing On. Each act of Noises Off features a different version of the first act of Nothing On, beginning with the dress rehearsal. The night before the

show's grand opening, the cast are still making mistakes, props are causing problems and things are generally looking poor.

A month later the company is now on tour and relationships between the cast have deteriorated, resulting in bedlam both in front of the scenery and backstage. The second act focuses on the chaotic antics going on backstage while the actors struggle to hold Nothing On together.

The third act is set near the end of the tour, its cast now completely fed up with the production and each other. Continuing to bungle their performances, the actors try to cover up their errors but instead drag the quality of the show down further.

With lots of slapstick comedy, a breakneck pace and subtle differences between the three versions of Nothing On's first act, Noises Off is a hilarious depiction of a show gone disastrously wrong.

Tickets are priced from £15 to £29. Book at www.churchilltheatre.co.uk or call 0870 0606620.



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CHRISTMAS WITH THE RAT PACK

Wednesday to Saturday,
November 19-22
Orchard Theatre, Dartford

GET in the festive spirit with the help of three legends in Christmas with the Rat Pack.

This tribute show features some of the most unforgettable music ever recorded, as sung by three world-famous icons. The music of Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr and Dean Martin is brought back to the stage in this sensational show, which features a 15-piece orchestra.

Allow yourself to be transported back in time to the glamour and glitz of Las Vegas nights, when the Rat Pack was in its heyday and music had never been so sophisticated. Paying tribute to these remarkable stars, the show features heart-



warming festive classics such as Baby It's Cold Outside, Let It Snow, White Christmas, Winter Wonderland and Auld Lang Syne.

With its array of timeless songs, fantastic voices and

memories of years gone by, the show should keep away the winter chills and be the perfect start for the season.

Tickets are from £19.50 on 01322 220000 or see www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

SASHA GRNYUK

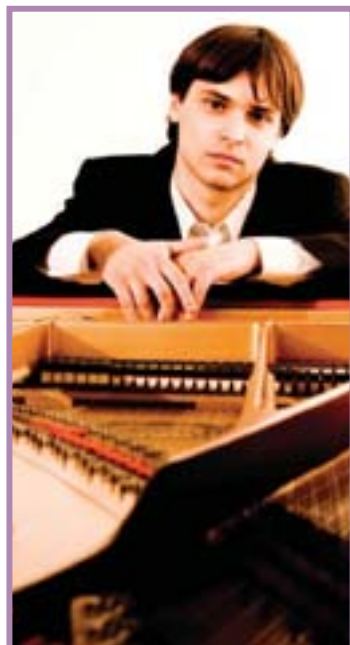
Saturday, November 22
Central Theatre, Chatham

BRILLIANT young pianist Sasha Grynyuk will be demonstrating his astonishing talent for a Medway audience this weekend.

The Ukrainian musician will be performing Rachmaninov's Variations on a Theme of Paganini, accompanied by the City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra. Guest conductor Peter Bassano has chosen a demanding Russian repertoire, including Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. The dramatic piece contrasts wonderfully with the composer's sunny Capriccio Italien and Stravinsky's exciting Suite from the Firebird.

Grynyuk made his concerto debut at the age of 11 and went on to win a multitude of prizes, including the prestigious Horowitz and Gilels International Competitions and the Jacques Samuel Competition. While studying at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, Grynyuk won the Gold Medal, an accolade previously awarded to cellist Jacqueline Du Pre and opera singer Bryn Terfel. He was invited to play with the City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra after winning first prize at the Haverhill International Competition.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets are £4.50 to £13, with discounts available for first time season ticket holders and piano students. To book call 07505 643354.



OPERA ON THE BIG SCREEN

Saturday, November 22
Cineworld, Rochester

HIGH culture comes to the big screen as Cineworld launches its new season of live performances by the New York Metropolitan Opera.

Due to its popularity with cinema audiences last year, the cinema chain will be screening 10 dramatic operas this season. All will be transmitted live from New York in high definition format, giving audiences the chance to see some of the most famous international operas performed by a world-renowned company.

This Saturday will be La Damnation De Faust, the story of a man who becomes suicidal through his inability to experience human happi-



ness. Just as he is about to end it all, Méphistophélès appears to offer him a deal.

Other operas due to be shown include Donizetti's Lucia Di Lammermoor, Gilbert's Dr Atomic and Strauss's Salome. The screenings also include a behind the scenes

feature with interviews, documentaries and on-screen tour of the Opera House.

The performance starts at 6pm and tickets cost £15/£12. For more information and to book go online at www.cineworld.co.uk/met opera.

MEDWAY LEISURE

Confusions brought out of the shadows in play

FIVE stories of obsession, isolation and desire for companionship are played out in Alan Ayckbourn's play Confusions.

All loosely linked, the one-act plays explore diverse situations from a wannabe seducer in a dingy hotel bar to a lonely park bench where people meet to talk, but no one listens.

Alternate Shadows will be performing the play at the Brook Theatre, Chatham, at 7.30pm on Saturday. Tickets cost £7. To book call 01634 338338 or visit www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.

Browse the delights as you take a look at stalls

A CHRISTMAS fair is being held at St George's Church Hall in Gravesend on Saturday.

Browse the stalls selling hot refreshments, cakes, toys, books, cards, handbags, bric-a-brac, jewellery and much more. There will also be face painting and a raffle on offer. The event runs at the hall in Church Street from 10am to 1pm and admission is free.

Tavern to host another evening of live bands

EXPERIENCE the best of local talent when Black & White presents another evening of live music at the Beacon Court Tavern, Gillingham, on Friday.

Headliners The Deccas have been rocking Medway and London venues for 18 months and saw off nearly 6,000 other acts to reach the final of the 2008 Surface Unsigned competition. Main support will be provided by the Infa Red, with The Violets opening the show.

The music starts at 9pm and tickets cost £5 on the door or £3.50 in advance from www.wegotickets.com.

Enjoy turkey, trimmings and great music at party

POPULAR band Unit Five will be holding its Christmas party in Wigmere.

The event will be at the Smallholders Club on Friday, November 28, offering the chance to enjoy Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and a licensed bar from 8pm until midnight.

Tickets, costing £23, must be booked in advance. To book call 07711 572306 or email a.ellingham@btopenworld.com.

To find out more about the band go to www.unitfive.co.uk.

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THE salon based in Chatham Dockyard specialises in providing makeovers for brides and bridal parties.

The business is a mobile one - working across Kent going directly to homes or any other chosen venue.

The team consists of fully qualified and experienced stylists who are located across the county in order to ensure a prompt service.

Lead stylist Georgette Jarvis looks after Medway, Maidstone and Gravesend. She is a regular columnist to wedding magazines and has appeared on TV and radio shows giving advice on all aspects of beauty.

As well as being a Government ambassador for women in business she hosts workshops and courses to pass on her expertise.

The company is unique in the UK in offering a training school for wedding hair design.

Current best selling treatment is a wedding package of hair and make up for the bride and top product is an eco-friendly mineral foundation powder - again specially designed with the marriage day in mind.

Every one of the dedicated staff has a distinct role to play in the company and are flexible and knowledgeable when it comes to clients. They also keep in touch with the latest products and innovations across the spectrum of bridal beauty.

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Prepare to shed seasonal pounds

■ Village Hotel and Leisure

THE centre offers some of the best all round facilities when it comes to active sports and health in the area.

It is also a complete day out in itself.

Members can take part in classes and gym clinics with personal training and a lot more besides.

Activities on offer include use of a 25 metre pool as well as a spa, sauna and steam room.

With Christmas on the horizon, weight management classes are also offered in order to make sure any pounds gained over the festive season can be got rid of sharply.

Swimming lessons are also available along

with classes in how to make the healthiest lifestyle choice.

Personal trainers are very experienced in helping people to achieve the goals they set themselves – whether these are weight loss, training for a marathon event or simply just wanting to look and feel at their very best.

Members also receive discounts in the cafes and other eateries on site which now include a Starbucks.

The Village has been in operation for four years and is regarded as one of the best places locally for people who want to combine exercise with healthy eating.

It is open from Monday to Friday from 6.30am until 10pm and on weekends from 8am until 8pm.

All the care you could need

■ Annette's Complete Hair Care

A MODERN ladies' and gents' hair studio, Annette's offers a wide range of services for all types of styles.

And in the build up to Christmas the Rainham salon is opening for longer hours in order to help customers look their best for the party season.

The business also offers a full styling range along with expert advice on how to make the best of your crowning glory.

Opened on September 6 this year, the premises are already getting an enviable reputation among people who want to ensure they look their very best.

And the business is not just about cutting hair – it is also about a group of dedicated staff making sure people have the very best advice when it comes to maintaining hair in great condition with the very latest care products available.

There are around 160 regular clients who come from as far afield as Cambridgeshire and Colchester as well as from nearby.

Current bestselling products are the Paul Mitchell range, which is not easily available in the area – despite being regarded as



among the best on the market.

Staff at Annette's ensure they are the best at making sure the customer is the most important person around – they offer a relaxed atmosphere and make sure anyone coming through the doors forgets about the daily grind and just relaxes.

TOP TIPS

Village

When supermarket shopping, park away from the store; it's further to walk and pushing the trolley back to the car helps cardio and weight bearing. Do not put off your health and fitness until tomorrow – make it happen today.
Telephone: 01622 656944

Bridgewood Manor

Use a body oil such as ESPA nourishing body oil or deeply nourishing body cream every day after a shower or bath to reduce or prevent stretch marks during pregnancy. You can find these at Reflections at Bridgewood Manor.
Telephone: 01634 201333

Allen & Walden

If you are thinking of purchasing expensive skin care products for a specific problem visit a reputable salon with experienced therapists. Book an appointment to have a facial so they can assess your skin fully before advising you on the correct skin care routine and products for your skin type, and take samples to try at home before you buy.

Bridal Hair and Beauty

For this winter season take advantage of all the new glittery eye make-up that has become available in golds or silver to create a fun party look. Use eyeliner and false eyelashes for dramatic effect. For winter weddings or parties there is no time to grow your hair, so for a quick solution scoop your own hair up into a neat ponytail and attach a long hair-piece – dramatic curls, straight or wavy – for instant glamour.
Telephone: 01634 222128

Annette's

Always wash your hair twice as the first wash removes the build up from the day, then the second wash cleans the hair through. Always use good products; cheap shampoo and conditioner puts waxes and silicones into your hair which make it feel good for a short time but strip your hair from goodness in the longer term.
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MEDWAY SHOPPING

Historic designs come to the outlet centre

PAST Times has become the latest store to open for business at the Dockside Outlet Centre.

The popular chain, which offers a huge selection of imaginative and unusual gifts inspired by designs of the past, officially opened at the Chatham shopping centre at the end of last month.

Dockside centre manager Anthony Sutton said: "Past Times is a fantastic addition for both regular shoppers and tourists to pick up something original to take home."

New boutique helps us 2BGreen on high street

ECO-friendly shop 2BGreen has opened in Rochester High Street offering a wide range of organic and Fairtrade goods.

2BGreen owner Steve Gerring said: "Opening the first shop in Rochester seemed a logical step as the high street is very much a boutique shopping environment, with a host of shops offering a diverse range of products."

The store will be open seven days a week in the run-up to Christmas. For more details see www.2bgreen.co.uk.

Step out in colourful style with new shoes

A NEW range of shoes and boots has just arrived at Dorothy Perkins.

Black leather platform boots can be picked up for £70, taupe patent buckle boots for £45 and leather bar pumps for £22.

Purple and grey Mary Jane heels are available for £35 and blue, fuchsia and black satin frill pumps for £18 at the Chatham High Street and Hempstead Valley stores.

To see the full range visit www.dorothyperkins.com.

Krispy Kreme to have a cocoa-fuelled party

CHOCOHOLICS will be in seventh heaven at Bluewater this weekend as Krispy Kreme celebrates all things chocolate.

On Saturday the doughnut shop will be staging a Chocolate Carnival Day, offering shoppers free Krispy Kreme T-shirts. There will also be balloon modelling, face painting, doughnut decorating and chocolate beauty treatments.

Appropriate Krispy Kreme products include the Chocolate Mint Drizzle bun doughnut, the Chocolate Biscuit Crunch ring doughnut and the Chocolate Fudge Cake.

Bring your children to meet Father Christmas

A FREE Santa's Grotto is among the festive draws to Lakeside this Christmas.

The shopping centre is giving youngsters the chance to meet Father Christmas and also take part in a wide range of arts and craft workshops.

A centre spokesman said: "To get everyone in the Christmas spirit, Lakeside's magical grotto is back this year. Kids can whisper their Christmas wishes to Santa and receive a fabulous free gift."

For details visit www.lakeside.uk.com.

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Overindulge in high seas fun

■ BY LIAM CREEDON

MY normal holiday routine involves over indulging on local cuisine to such an extent I have to grease the doors when I get home to move around my flat, but this trip with water sports specialist Sunsail was rather different.

A small group of us, none of whom had stepped foot on a yacht before, had been tasked with turning from sailing 'zeros to heroes' in under a week.

An intensive three-day course would give us the basics. We would then be unleashed upon two 40-foot state of the art, frighteningly expensive yachts, sailing where the wind took us, around the heart-stealing beauty of the Ionian islands, off the west coast of mainland Greece.

We stayed in Vounaki, which boasts all the usual restaurants, pools, sports facilities and entertainment for kids and adults alike. Its elevated position provides a wondrous nightly spectacle as the sun sets slowly behind the jagged peaks of Lefkas Island across the bay.

The work is physically demanding. There is a lot of pulling and hauling. We all boasted blisters and sunburn, but both crews were quietly confident as excellent instructors hammered into us exactly what had to be done.

Then on our final day of training we woke to screaming winds and a gun-metal sky.



SAIL AWAY: Learning to sail makes an unusual change from lazing around in the Greek sun

Everything had changed. Normally placid waters now tossed and shook in ragged vengeance. Surely, conditions would be too severe to sail? Not a chance. Under Greek law you cannot sail in a force six sea — this was only force five.

We began to feel nervous as we set sail. Out of the harbour the sea lurched and surged at the boat, drenching us with freezing run-off. Huge gaps would tear open in the water leav-

ing the yacht to slide sickeningly into the void.

Everyone donned lifejackets. Some tied themselves to the yacht with safety harnesses. A crackling radio message came through — as conditions had hit force six, all boats must return to the harbour. Then the engine cut out.

Our skipper told us these were the worst conditions experienced for a year, and totally out of character for the area. Then, harnessed to the deck, he strode calmly out across the front of the yacht and raised the front sail. "We'll sail back in, it's no problem," he said.

The boat suddenly leapt into life, we twisted around and shot back in the direction of the harbour. Our skipper, a professional sailor, was in his element. The conditions offered him the chance to do some proper sailing at last.

Scrambling back on shore, I felt slightly ashamed. I had the dawning realisation the conditions hadn't been half as dangerous as I'd thought. I also realised I couldn't stop smiling — it was the best fun I'd had in years.

Next morning the sea was once again a vast, azure carpet. Our skipper took us south, passing marjoram and pine-scented islands — the tadpole shaped Meganisi, and the secretive Scorpis, owned by the Onassis family — then on toward Kefalonia, where we were to spend the night.

The following morning we were sailing on a gentle breeze, and it felt terrific.

It was with some reluctance that we stepped back on land for the final time. It could have been the Greek brandy, but as we shared our exploits later that night, I couldn't help but notice that everyone was firmly clutching hold of the bar, and gently swaying.

FACT FILE: GREECE



Time difference	UK plus 2 hrs
Capital	Athens
Population	11.2 million
Language	Greek
Climate	Mediterranean
Religion	Greek Orthodox
Currency	Euro (1.23 to approx £1)

Travel details

- Liam Creedon was a guest of Sunsail Vounaki Club Flotilla, which offers seven nights' half-board in twin/double room plus seven nights on a Sunsail 322 yacht sharing with four people from £699 travelling in late September, including return flights into Preveza and use of Sunsail's watersports equipment, shore-based activities at Club, and fully-equipped cruising yacht on the Flotilla.
- A three-day Flotilla Training Course costs £140 per person.
- Sunsail Clubs reservations: 0844 463 6578 and www.sunsail.co.uk/clubs.



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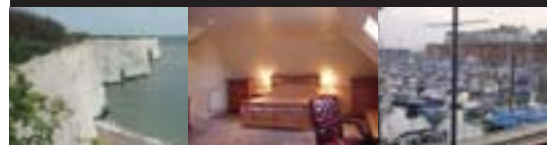
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PROPERTY NEWS

Study shows a drop in first time landlords

THE buy-to-let business is increasingly getting out of the reach of new landlords, according to recent figures.

In a study of about 200 mortgage brokers in the country, it was found that in the third quarter there was an increase in the number of landlords seeking portfolio extension mortgages or remortgages.

Also the number of first-time landlords applying for buy-to-let mortgages shrank to its lowest in recent times.

But experienced landlords now dominate the sector as they build long-term portfolios.

It was also found that in the three months to the end of September, there were more than 55 per cent buy-to-let transactions done for remortgages.

While 30 per cent of landlords wanted to extend their portfolios, only about 2.6 per cent of business was for property substitution.

Of this, 10.6 per cent of business in the period was accounted for by first-time landlords, which showed a fall from 18.3 per cent in the third quarter of 2007.

Parents are called on to help young buyers raise deposit

HALF of all first-time home buyers under the age of 30 are getting help from their parents to fund their purchases.

Data from the Council of Mortgage Lenders shows that as lenders have lowered their loan-to-value ratios on mortgages – the amount that can be borrowed against the value of a home – parents have stepped in to fill the gap.

However, first-time buyers are not taking advantage of falling house prices.

The CML data shows the value of a property bought by an 'assisted buy' was £146,000 in the second quarter of 2008 – compared to £145,000 a year ago.

However, parents are being tapped for more cash as higher deposits are needed. The average deposit now is £35,000, compared to £29,201 a year ago, as average loans-to-value on mortgages have dropped from 80.6 per cent to 75.3 per cent for buyers receiving help.

Report reveals a few home truths

Federation plea for greater provision of social housing

BY NICK AMES

HOUSE prices have fallen an average of more than five per cent locally in the last year – but it is still as hard as ever for people to get on to the housing ladder, according to new research from the National Housing Federation.

The credit crunch effect on mortgage availability means price falls are having no impact in making homes more accessible, the study revealed.

A report entitled South East Home Truths: Why the Need for Social Housing is Increasing has been launched by the federation at the House of Commons.

It shows that poor housing supply, affordability problems, and mortgage arrears and repossessions are pushing more people towards social housing for help.

The statistics in the report give a complete picture of housing issues in the area.

The research shows only 70 per cent of the social homes needed are being built in the South East, while waiting lists have grown more than 60 per cent in five years and overcrowding is on the increase.

It also reveals over 200,000 households in the region are now on a waiting list for more suitable housing – affecting close to half a million people.

House-building by private developers fell 22 per cent between June 2007 and June 2008.

The Government believes the South East needs to build 33,125 new homes a year and the South East Regional Assembly has said social housing should account for 35 per cent



STILL CRUNCHED: Young buyers are a rare occurrence as mortgage availability means housing is not affordable

of all new homes; around 11,600 a year.

But Government funding only supported the delivery of 8,200 social homes last year.

Simon Nunn, head of south region for the federation, said: "The South East is perceived as affluent and the place to be, yet look under the veneer and you'll find areas of real poverty and deprivation in the region's cities and in some rural areas.

"We need more homes now. One in every 17 households in the South East is now on a waiting list for a social home.

"With unemployment rising and more families and older people moving towards the

poverty line, a new spike in social housing demand looks inevitable.

"Housing associations can't deliver the homes the region needs without a good borrowing stream from lenders and more support from the Government.

"The economy of the South East is key to the well-being and growth of the country as a whole.

"It's vital we maintain the strong progress housing associations have made in delivering new social homes in recent years, and that we help people get through this tough economic time in the best shape possible."

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<p>HOO £165,000</p> <p>hoo@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9734 • 3 Bedroom Semi Detached House • Through Lounge/Diner • Kitchen • Utility Area</p>	<p>UPPER STOKE £285,000</p> <p>REDUCED</p> <p>hoo@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9734 • Detached 4 Bed Bungalow • River View • No Chain • Garage & Driveway • Lounge</p>	<p>RAINHAM £109,950</p> <p>rainham@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9735 • End Of Terraced House • No Chain • Two Bedrooms • Two Reception Rooms</p>	<p>RAINHAM £124,950</p> <p>rainham@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9735 • No Chain • Up-dating Required • Two Double Bedrooms • Two Reception Rooms</p>	<p>HEMPSTEAD £194,950</p> <p>rainham@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9735 • Viewing Recommended • No Through Road • Garage • 3 Bedrooms</p>	<p>RAINHAM £224,950</p> <p>rainham@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9735 • 3 Bedroom Semi Detached • Double Garage With Electric Door • No Chain</p>
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<p>CHATHAM £102,500</p> <p>NEW</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738 • 1 Bedroom Back To Back Starter Home • 40 Foot Own Rear Garden • Fitted Kitchen</p>	<p>CHATHAM £124,950</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738 • Located In A Cul-de-sac Position • No Chain! • Modern Fitted Kitchen • GCH</p>	<p>CHATHAM £130,000</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738 • EOT House • Kitchen/ Dining Room • Gas Central Heating System • No Chain</p>	<p>LORDSWOOD £184,995</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738 • 3 Bedrooms • Detached House • Garage • Driveway • Two Reception Rooms</p>	<p>LORDSWOOD £149,995</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738 • No Onward Chain! • Re-fitted Kitchen • GCH System • Garage • Parking</p>	<p>CHATHAM £239,995</p> <p>REDUCED</p> <p>walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738 • 4 Bedroom Detached House • Modern Cul-de-sac • Possible No Onward Chain!</p>

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Rainham Office Tel: 01634 374953
11 High Street, Rainham, Kent ME8 7HX

Rochester Office Tel: 01634 812697
150 High Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 1ER

Strood Office Tel: 01634 715401
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Hempstead £275,000

4 bedroom detached, 2 receptions/conservatory, fabulous bathroom, driveway, NO CHAIN.
CALL OUR RAINHAM OFFICE 01634 374953



Hawkenbury Rise OIEO £275,000

Four bedroom detached house, no forward chain, close links to A2/M2, conservatory.
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Rainham OIEO £270,000

4 bedroom barn style property, downstairs cloakroom, ensuite, double garage, garden.
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Arethusa Road £250,000

3 bedroom detached house, ground floor w.c., utility room, conservatory, no chain.
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Upnor £234,995

Three bedroom semi detached house, garage, double glazing, gas central heating.
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WIGMORE £235,000

Three bedroom character semi detached, kitchen/breakfast, utility, cloakroom, parking.
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Allhallows £199,995

3 bedroom semi detached house, conservatory, driveway and a garage.
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Allhallows £189,995

3 bedroom semi detached house, extended to rear, garage, driveway, rear garden.
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Strover Street £185,000

3 bedroom semi detached house, no chain, garage, off road parking, central location.
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Rainham OIEO £155,000

Stunning 3 bedroom re-furnished semi, lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, gardens, no chain.
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Sundridge Drive OIEO £155,000

4 Bedroom Semi Detached, DSCR, refitted kitchen, DG, CH, garage, no onward chain.
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Ordnance Street OIEO £150,000

3 bedroom terrace house, set over three floors, off street parking, fully tenanted.
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PUBLIC NOTICE



24 TOVEY SQUARE KENT ME7 2QN
We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £140,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.
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Emily Road £139,950

3 Bedroom, Well presented, recently refitted Kitchen & Bathroom, DG, CH, Garage, No Chain.
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Lower Halstow £134,950

2 bedroom mid terrace cottage, village green location, additional loft room, no chain.
CALL OUR RAINHAM OFFICE 01634 374953



Dial Road OIEO £129,500

3 bedroom mid terrace house, double glazing, central heating, upstairs bathroom.
CALL OUR GILLINGHAM OFFICE 01634 851008



Warren Wood Road OIEO £120,000

3 bedroom EOT house, front & rear gardens, central heating, double glazing, no chain.
CALL OUR ROCHESTER OFFICE 01634 812697



Saunders Street OIEO £119,000

3 storey terrace house being sold with sitting tenants, GFCH, DG, 2 bathrooms.
CALL OUR GILLINGHAM OFFICE 01634 851008



Pagitt Street OIEO £110,000

3 bedroom terrace house, no forward chain, popular location, 2 receptions, DG, GCH.
CALL OUR CHATHAM OFFICE 01634 843277



Longhill Avenue £109,950

3 bedroom semi detached house, no chain, 2 receptions, elevated position, bathroom.
CALL OUR GILLINGHAM OFFICE 01634 851008



Valley View Road OIEO £93,000

1 bedroom GF flat, lounge with double doors onto patio, allocated parking.
CALL OUR ROCHESTER OFFICE 01634 812697

PUBLIC NOTICE



84 SEAGULL ROAD 2RX
We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer £92,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.
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Wouldham OIEO £90,000

One bedroom flat over two floors, village location, no chain.
CALL OUR ROCHESTER OFFICE 01634 812697



Shipwrights Avenue £84,995

3 bedroom duplex maisonette, no forward chain, security entry phone system, DG.
CALL OUR CHATHAM OFFICE 01634 843277



Cordelia Crescent £70,000

2nd floor flat, one bedroom, kitchen/diner, double glazing, storage heating.
CALL OUR ROCHESTER OFFICE 01634 812697

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strood@bairstoweves.co.uk

Countrywide

Allhallows



£140,000

3 bedroom Terrace house, comprises entrance porch, through lounge, kitchen/dining room, bathroom, conservatory overlooking the garden.

Hoo



£149,995

Three bedroom semi-detached family house situated in a popular cul-de-sac in the heart of Hoo village, available with no chain

Strood



£159,995

3 bedroom extended semi-detached in a after cul-de-sac. Features include ground floor extension, GF bathroom, modernisation required. No chain.

Strood



£168,995

3 bedroom semi-detached in a popular residential crescent, double glazing, central heating, fitted kitchen, double glazed conservatory, corner plot.

Cliff



£215,000

Three double bedroom family home situated in a sought after cul-de-sac with superb rear aspect views over the marshes.

Upper Upnor



£225,000

Charming 3 bedroom period home. Features include extended kitchen, upstairs bathroom and low maintenance rear garden. Highly Recommended!

Strood



£325,000

Wonderful three bedroom detached period house which retains many original features including exposed oak beams and fireplace.

Strood



£340,000

Five/six bedroom detached residence set over three storeys in a sought after residential location.

Rochester



£360,000

5 bedroom detached, three storeys. Double glazing, central heating, fitted kitchen, en-suite bathroom, double glazed conservatory.

Lower Stoke



£425,000

Five bedroom detached Bungalow with approximately two thirds of an acre, two reception rooms, two bathrooms and substantial grounds. View Now!

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Live assistance, 2pm-5.30pm, Mon to Fri | Email: louise@g8wave.co.uk
(Calls cost 10p/min; contact your service provider for details)

WOMEN seeking men

SINGLE DAD WANTED
Single mum, 23, nice and curvy, 5ft6, blonde, blue eyes, likes shopping, cinema and animals, WLTm an honest and trustworthy male, 28-38. Box 446099

MAYBE MORE
Seeking fun, friendship, maybe more. WLTm fun man, 25-30, I'm female, 26, brown hair and blue eyes, average build. Box 445622

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
Lively female, 26, 5ft2, brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy, for fun, friendship and more. Box 428555

SNUGGLE UP
Tall, attractive, good-hearted African female, 28yr old, enjoys films, good food and cuddles, WLTm a white male for friendship and romance. Box 441654

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• Success Stories

Read or write your own Success Story. Our members have been keen to write about their stories and how they met - you know, their stories may help you in your search! We are always glad to hear from you.

• Increase your dating success

Online, say more about yourself and your perfect partner for fun, friendly, outgoing male who likes astrology, walks, cinema, eating in/out and more. Box 444498

• Search at your leisure

If you can't find who you're looking for on our page here, you will find so many more members online. Browse, read, hear and see members.

www.people2people.co.uk/kos.asp

IF YOU CAN REACH, TAKE ME OFF THE SHELF!

Petite, dark-haired, blue-eyed female, 30, fun and friendly, bright and bubbly. Bored of being single, looking for a lovely man to take me out! Box 895049

NO TIMEWASTERS!

Easygoing female, 32, enjoys shopping, football, eating out, cosy night in, WLTm loving, caring white male 35-47 for long term loving relationship. Box 444214

ATTENTION! TALL WHITE GUY REQUIRED

Pretty black female, 32, tall, loves watching football, shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male, 34-47, for LTR. Chatroom. Box 437778

CUDDLY FEMALE

32, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh, and WLTm nice, kind gent. Box 394042

THE TRUTH ABOUT RUTH

I'm Ruth, hard-working, kind, caring, 33, brown hair, brown eyes, nice smile, seeking down-to-earth and loving male to get to know and see what happens! Box 901072

FUN-LOVING FEMALE

Attractive, 31, 5'4", 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTm intelligent, professional, attractive guy for a happy relationship. Turbridge Wells. Box 308734

MEND A BROKEN HEART

Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053

SEIZE THE DAY

Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

IN EACH OTHERS ARMS

Caring sensitive female, 38, looking for fun, friendly, outgoing male who likes astrology, walks, cinema, eating in/out and more. Box 444498

NO TIES

Lovely, bored, professional Turbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTm slim, single, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter. Box 443573

COME ON OVER

Divorced female, 40, likes fishing, swimming, walking and eating out, WLTm young man, for friendship and more. Box 446097

THE HOME LIFE

Happy, caring female, homely, tactile and honest. I'm black African, 41, 5ft2, medium build, and would like LTR with the right person. Box 446024

YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL

Bubbly 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, WLTm a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS

Laid-back single mum, very bubbly, outgoing and intelligent, 43, enjoys social life, drinks, meals, cinema; looking to start afresh with someone new, easygoing and life-loving. Box 445102

HERE TO BE YOURS

Single mum, caring, honest, 43, fair hair, blue eyes, medium build, 5ft8, seeking reliable, friendly, honest gent for friendship, maybe more. Box 446307

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent professional who values TLC. Box 441156

ATTRACTIVE

Professional female, 43, enjoys dancing, walking, reading and cooking, WLTm intelligent professional male, who can hold a good conversation, for a relationship. Box 444282

LOVELY JOSEPHINE

Passionate and fun-loving 43yr old female, enjoys clubbing, meals out and cooking, WLTm a male to share evenings out with. Box 445225

POLISH LADY SEEKING...

Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897953

FROM ME TO YOU

Tall leggy brunette, 38, recently bereaved, enjoys meals out or nights in, dry white wine, a good movie & cuddles, seeking a male for companionship. Box 887404

YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive female, 38, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving fun male for friendship/more. Box 901893

FUTURE FUN, PASSION AND ADVENTURE!

Separated brilliant brunette, 39, single mum, 5ft7, likes swimming and house music, WLTm a kind and considerate tall white male with dark shoulder length hair. Box 445684

ANIMAL LOVER?

Nurse, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male Box 431557

DEAL OR NO DEAL? (IN DEAL)

Homesly traditional lady, 43, divorced, brunette, green eyes, 5ft10, likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384

INTERESTED? GIVE ME A CALL

Homesly traditional lady, 44, 5ft8, slim-medium build, non smoker, love life, animals, my dog, walks along the harbour, country pubs, WLTm similar gent for romance. Box 446277

COULD IT BE YOU?

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800

HERE WE ARE

Easygoing female, 45, self-employed hairdresser, likes theatre, restaurants, socialising, sofa cuddles, seeking loyal, loving, caring male for good WLTm. Box 444672

EVERLASTING LOVE

Beautiful black female, 46, WLTm a caring, gentle and loving gentleman, 45-60, 5ft10+, pref a bit sporty, for a everlasting relationship. Turbridge Wells Box 445407

HELP ME OPEN UP

Easygoing lady, 46, dark brown hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes life, socialising, the seaside, walks, drinks, WLTm male to share a bottle of wine with. Box 444585

SPONTANEOUS

Karen, 46, 5ft3, medium build, likes keeping fit, getting out and about, travelling and a nice bottle of wine, WLTm light-hearted male for a LTR. Box 445745

ETERNALLY YOURS

Easygoing woman, likes most things in life; country walks, films, cinema, cooking. I'm 46, 5ft2, medium build, WLTm genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 445335

ARE YOU A BOND?

Kind, caring, attractive lady, young 35, 5'7", slim, brown hair/eyes, N/S, GSOH, enjoys walking, reading, travel, socialising; seeking tall, considerate, honest gent for hopeful LTR. Box 446079

LOVE ME, LOVE MY DOG

Useful, intelligent, caring female, 62, young looking/looking, like walks, music, cooking, seeking sensitive, caring, uncomplicated male, N/S, perhaps a dog owner, for friendship first Box 434345

TACTILE AND LOVING

Golden blonde, 50s, I'm friendly, enjoy photography, country walks, antiques, gardening etc. Non-smoker, divorced, 5ft4, average build. WLTm attractive guy, easy-to-get-on-with, 55-62, with GSOH. Box 445603

HELP!

Positive, vivacious female, 59, 5ft4, enjoys art, seaside walks and music, seeks tallish, kind, caring male to grow old with...disgracefully. Box 449493

SOPHISTICATED

Mature female, 60, 5ft8, slim, ash blonde hair, enjoys eating out and going to the cinema, WLTm trustworthy male, GSOH. Box 444586

LOVE ME, LOVE MY DOG

Young looking attractive female, 54, N/S, friendly and sociable, love music, dance and history, warm and sparkly, WLTm a genuine female for a close female friendship. Box 445146

DON'T PASS ME BY

Friendly, bubbly, fun-loving woman, 45, 5'4", GSOH, enjoys socialising, pubs, music, eating in/out, own home/car, smoker, looking for honest man 44-55, who enjoys life. Box 823441

MAKE ME LAUGH, MAKE ME YOURS

Single 47yr old lovely female, 5ft5, slim, blonde hair, blue-green eyes, seeking male for potential LTR, must have GSOH! Box 865288

HAPPY GO LUCKY

Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH, I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes, I have lots of interests and WLTm similar guy. Box 895019

WE'LL SEE

Blonde hair/blue eyes, 5ft5, slim, looking for friendship, possibly more. I'm a nice woman, 47, seeking good male, for friendship, possibly more. Box 445392

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

JANE SEEKING TAZAN

Hi, I'm Jane, 49, 5ft4, love life, animals, gardening and going out, looking for an honest, loving and caring male FOR a LTR. Box 446117

WHERE R U?

Charming, honest, popular blonde, 50yrs old, 5ft2, slim, looking to find an honest, loyal man that can make me happy again. Box 887347

LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE

Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTm genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 835562

CARING & PROFESSIONAL

Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 46-55. Hastings Box 417100

ENTERTAIN ME

49yrs female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular dining, drinking and laughing. honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854

DIG DEEPER

Genuine, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55. Dover Box 435441

FUNNY GIRL

Petite blonde female, 50, GSOH, likes music, books, films, cooking, looking for romantic soulmate, 40-55, for TLC. Kent. Box 835181

NOTHING VENTURED...

New to this, I'm a 39yr old woman, seeking loving, tactile man. I enjoy walks, countryside, having fun, nights in and out. Box 446282

ARE YOU A BOND?

Kind, caring, attractive lady, young 35, 5'7", slim, brown hair/eyes, N/S, GSOH, enjoys walking, reading, travel, socialising; seeking tall, considerate, honest gent for hopeful LTR. Box 446079

LOVE ME, LOVE MY DOG

Useful, intelligent, caring female, 62, young looking/looking, like walks, music, cooking, seeking sensitive, caring, uncomplicated male, N/S, perhaps a dog owner, for friendship first Box 434345

TACTILE AND LOVING

Golden blonde, 50s, I'm friendly, enjoy photography, country walks, antiques, gardening etc. Non-smoker, divorced, 5ft4, average build. WLTm attractive guy, easy-to-get-on-with, 55-62, with GSOH. Box 445603

HELP!

Positive, vivacious female, 59, 5ft4, enjoys art, seaside walks and music, seeks tallish, kind, caring male to grow old with...disgracefully. Box 449493

SOPHISTICATED

Mature female, 60, 5ft8, slim, ash blonde hair, enjoys eating out and going to the cinema, WLTm trustworthy male, GSOH. Box 444586

LOVE ME, LOVE MY DOG

Young looking attractive female, 54, N/S, friendly and sociable, love music, dance and history, warm and sparkly, WLTm a genuine female for a close female friendship. Box 445146

ARE YOU MY MR RIGHT?

Independent, honest, caring and genuine smoker, 53, medium build, GSOH, likes socialising, travelling, WLTm a genuine and honest male for friendship, companionship, maybe a LTR. Box 887442

COMPANIONSHIP LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE

Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest, blonde female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTm similar loving male. Box 443642

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

Hi, I'm Teresa, 53yr young, like animals, gardening and ordinary things! WLTm a nice man, my age or younger, for a possible relationship. Box 445707

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

African lady, 58, likes reading, current affairs and travelling, WLTm an outgoing, fun-loving and honest male to share the rest of my life with. Box 445122

DON'T BE SHY, SAY HI!

Positive, happy, young-at-heart Mum, 55, 5ft8, blonde, loves classic rock and blues, country pubs, WLTm like-minded genuine male for friendship and hopefully something more. Box 443855

SOPHISTICATED SUE

Sue, 56yr old, 5ft4, green eyes, petite, loves cooking, holidays, reading and swimming, WLTm a tall professional male, similar age, for friendship and romance. Box 443309

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CHARM ME

57yrs tactile, passionate person, red hair, 5ft3, size 12, young looking, young thinking, very interested in Irish man to make me happy and live again. Box 438829

HERE I AM

I'm Stuart, 36, 6ft6, short dark hair, stocky build, love squash, badminton, swimming, the gym, theatre, seeking a fun-loving, nice lady for loyalty and love. Box 437106

TRUTHSTORY

Margate man, 37, 6ft3, dark hair, nice big smile, love in residence, looking like I love. I'm down-to-earth, kind, tactile, with GSOH. Box 423437

FULL MARKS

Hi, I'm Andrew, 38, 6ft3, dark hair, blue eyes, hardworking guy, friendly, tactile & outgoing, likes enjoying life, WLTm easygoing female for friendship/relationship. Box 443488

HOP ON!

Hi, I'm Mark, 6ft, slim/medium build, lots of interests including motorcycling, WLTm a kind and honest female to share fun times and laugh with. Box 445124

TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY

Shy but genuine, loving male, 39, medium build, likes football, rugby, socialising, meals, nights in; seeking similar lady to find lasting and true love with. Box 446336

LOVE-LOVING AND LONG LASTING

Honest, decent gent, 39, medium build, fair hair/blue eyes, likes cooking, DIY, quiet nights in, pubs, lots of fun WLTm female 30-45 for relationship. Box 446205

PUT THAT SPARK BACK INTO MY LIFE

Virgo male, 40, 5ft7, stocky build, kind, loving, fine guy, enjoys the cinema, meals out, walks on beaches, WLTm like-minded person for my gift. Box 446212

MEN seeking women

DANCE TO THE MUSIC
Well-mannered and honest builder and DJ, 32, 6ft, brown hair, blue eyes, good build, WLTm a nice and sexy lady 27-42, to enjoy life with. Box 446239

HOPING TO BE HAPPY TOGETHER

Decent nice guy, 33, 6ft2, large build, enjoys drinks, films, socialising, looking for a female 35-45, looks unimpaired/personality essential! Hastings. Box 446166

UP FOR IT?

Maidstone male, 33, 6ft, muscular, GSOH, fair hair/blue eyes, likes Thai boxing, pubs, having fun, cosy nights in, house/hop hop music, WLTm loving, attractive, slim female. Box 156289

LOVE ME TENDER

Fun-loving honest dad, 34, 5ft11, brown hair, seeking honest, caring female for friendship, maybe leading to honest, tender relationship. Eastbourne. Box 446200

ATTENTION

Fun-loving male, 33, 6ft, blue eyes, fair hair, stocky-muscular, seeks similar slender female to enjoy life with. Maidstone. Box 194378

LOOKING FOR YOU

Normal down-to-earth guy 5ft9, short hair, brown eyes, medium build, 34, love to meet female any age for outgoing, fun, friendly times and maybe more. Box 446154

NON-SMOKING

Separated male, 36, 6ft, good looks but SOH, kind, caring and sensual into films and fitness. Seeking a cute to share life and love with. Box 445729

EVERYTHING I DO

Levi, driver, 3

MOTORS NEWS



Zero emission fuel cell Honda hits the streets

HONDA has announced that the first customers have taken delivery of its much hyped FCX Clarity – the firm's zero emission fuel cell-powered car.

Initially up to 200 customers will begin leasing the car in the United States and Japan over the next three years, with the first few recipients from California.

Film director Ron Yerxa was the first customer to get the keys to an FCX Clarity, followed by actress Jamie Lee Curtis (pictured) and her husband, Christopher Guest.

The FCX Clarity is Honda's next generation, hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicle.

The car's only emissions are heat and water and its fuel efficiency is three times that of a modern petrol engine.



Shared trips are 'driving couples round the bend'

COUPLES planning a leisurely car trip together are likely to find that it ends in tears, it has been revealed.

Over three-quarters of them have stopped talking thanks to an in-car row over getting lost.

This and disagreeing about directions are the most common reasons for couples arguing in the car when they're supposed to be getting away from it all.

A third of people confess to getting lost on the roads at some time or another, and 61 per cent of British couples admit to having a bust-up because of winding up at the wrong destination or differences of opinion about which route to take – possibly because 59 per cent of drivers don't own electronic route planners.

The gender divide is alive and well on the road too.

Men will wait on average 10 minutes 43 seconds before getting help if they're lost, while women – traditionally less shy about asking for directions – will wait a longer 12 minutes 36 seconds, according to the research by Vodafone.



A LITTLE GEM: VW's Fox first arrived back in 2006 taking over from the Lupo and is produced in the company's Brazilian plant, hence the economical price of only £6,600

A Brazilian Volkswagon that'll drive its rivals nuts

WE won't claim VW roared back to the city car sector with the Fox – little cars just don't make that much fuss.

But this little three-door's arrival in 2006 showed how the German giant still saw a point to the baby car sector it abandoned with the demise of the Lupo the year before – now we all get the point as the UK rushes to downsize and cut driving costs.

With prices starting at £6,600, the Fox is also well placed to satisfy that trend – the even smaller Lupo was nudging £8,000 when it got the chop.

This cost-cutting feat was achieved by VW sourcing the newcomer from its tried and tested Brazilian production operation, creating a roomy high-roof design that really can seat four and wears the brand's more premium badge on the front.

At 3.83 metres, the newcomer was 30cms longer than the Lupo yet around 90cms shorter than VW's rather dearer Polo supermini.

But VW squeezed the budget hard to enable the Fox compete in a tight arena and it shows

ROAD TEST VW FOX

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

most in the interior where the plastics simply do not match VW's normally high standards.

Nevertheless, they are competitive with this end of the market and it is hard to see anywhere else where the Brazilian import lets the side down.

The car drives well with a crisp gearshift, good grip and a sensible balance between ride quality and handling.

For now, the engine technology is petrol only and nothing fancy: a 53bhp 1.2-litre or 72bhp 1.4-litre. I actually prefer the 1.2; the official 0-62mph in 16.5 seconds looks glacial, but it seems to have enough power when you need it.

The three-cylinder layout causes some unevenness on tickover, but this settles down well for the motorway and it should average around 45mpg.

Neither powertrain qualifies for the lowest (£35/year) payable road tax band though and standard spec is basic – you need around £600 to trade up to the higher Urban package, bringing electric front windows, body-coloured bumpers and door mirrors, remote central locking and sliding rear bench seat.

• Email steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk



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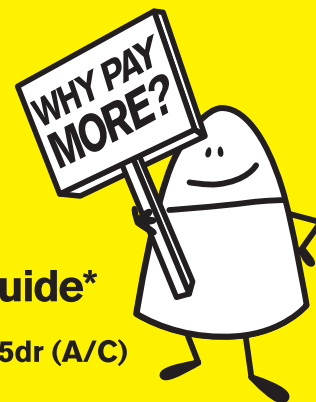
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56 Reg Renault

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55 Reg Ford

Mondeo 2.0 TDCi 115 LX 5dr

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03 to 56 Reg	Toyota Yaris - Choice of 20	£4,999
52 to 07 Reg	Vauxhall Corsa - Choice of 20	£4,799

MPVs



Choice of
140

54 to 57 Reg	Peugeot 807 - Choice of 10	£9,999
04 to 08 Reg	Renault Scenic - Choice of 10	£5,699
Y to 07 Reg	Citroen Picasso - Choice of 20	£3,799
05 to 08 Reg	Ford Focus C-Max - Choice of 10	£6,499
53 to 08 Reg	Vauxhall Zafira - Choice of 20	£5,499
54 to 07 Reg	VW Sharan - Choice of 15	£9,999

Medium Cars



Choice of
365

05 to 57 Reg	Mazda3 - Choice of 20	£7,799
06 to 08 Reg	Peugeot 207 - Choice of 25	£6,799
02 to 57 Reg	Peugeot 307 - Choice of 90	£5,299
03 to 57 Reg	Renault Megane - Choice of 25	£4,999
52 to 07 Reg	Ford Focus - Choice of 40	£5,799
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Prestige Cars



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06 to 56 Reg	BMW 1 Series - Choice of 5	£12,999
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W to 04 Reg	Lexus IS200 - Choice of 5	£6,499
51 to 55 Reg	Mercedes A-Class - Choice of 10	£5,499
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Large Cars



Choice of
215

54 to 08 Reg	Peugeot 407 - Choice of 50	£5,999
02 to 57 Reg	Renault Laguna - Choice of 10	£3,499
X to 57 Reg	Ford Mondeo - Choice of 70	£3,999
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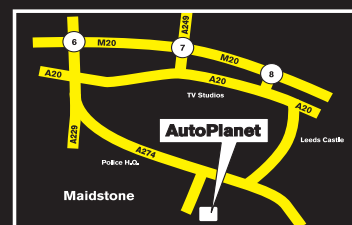
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

PEOPLE CARRIERS

TOYOTA started it all with a spruced up van called the Space Cruiser, but Renault drew the 'people carrier' blueprint in the form of the purpose-built Espace. Since then, everyone has picked up the ball and run with it; there are people carriers or 'multi-purpose vehicles' (MPVs) to suit all requirements and tastes. But we are featuring three of the big players in every sense; they have not only sold in number, but can also be had as full seven-seaters and not five plus two occasional chairs at the back.

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FORD GALAXY



IF Renault's Espace distilled the essence of the people carrier, Ford mass-produced it. The 1995 vintage Galaxy and its cloned sisters, the VW Sharan and Seat Alhambra, sold in big numbers helped by a combination of style, space and car-like handling. The fact that the Ford soldiered on for 11 years, helped by a superb makeover in 2000, is a tribute to the design. Reliability on early examples is increasingly flaky so post-2000 diesels are the pick of the used crop.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CHRYSLER VOYAGER



COMMERCIAL and private buyers have made the Voyager a big hit for Chrysler in the UK. All versions seat seven, but there is more demand for the extra luggage space of 13-inch longer 'Grand' models and those featuring Stow 'n' Go: underfloor stowage that also takes the folded seats. The smooth and powerful post-2004 diesel auto is the powertrain to go for. The Voyager rides comfortably, but bulk, small wheels and vague steering make for a dull drive.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

KIA SEDONA



NEVER mind the quality, feel the width describes the Kia Sedona (1999-2006). Replaced by a more sophisticated model, the original is a cheap, reliable and capacious used buy though the interior is tacky, safety features were not up with rivals and it feels lumpy on rural roads while excelling as a comfy motorway muncher. The post-2002 125bhp diesel is the engine to go for if the budget will stretch. Sliding rear doors and a big tailgate make access easy.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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GJ58SYA	Fabia 2.1 12v 70bhp Sdr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£10,225.00	£835.00	£9,390.00	£0.00	£194.97	9.6%
GJ58SYF	Fabia 2.1 12v 70bhp Sdr Hatch	DYNAMIC BLUE	£9,830.00	£840.00	£8,990.00	£0.00	£186.79	9.7%
GJ58SYE	Fabia 2.1 1.4 TDI 80bhp Sdr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£11,710.00	£920.00	£10,790.00	£1,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYG	Fabia 2.1 1.4 TDI 80bhp Sdr Hatch	TANGERINE ORANGE	£12,035.00	£1,045.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ58SYR	Fabia 2.1 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr Hatch	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£12,785.00	£995.00	£11,790.00	£2,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYS	Fabia 2.1 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£12,785.00	£995.00	£11,790.00	£2,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYP	Fabia 3.1 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£13,850.00	£1,160.00	£12,690.00	£3,250.00	£195.99	9.6%
GK58NMU	Fabia Greenline 1.4 TDI 80bhp Sdr Hatch	BRIGHT SILVER	£12,105.00	£1,115.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ58SYO	Octavia Ambiente 1.8 TSI 160bhp Sdr Hatch	DIAMOND SILVER	£15,190.00	£2,200.00	£12,990.00	£3,500.00	£197.02	9.6%

EX-DEMONSTRATION SKODA

REG. NO.	MODEL / ENGINE	COLOUR	COST NEW	SAVING	PRICE TO YOU	DEPOSIT	60 MONTHLY	APR
GJ08YLU	Fabia 2.1 1.2 12v 70bhp Sdr Hatch	STORM BLUE	£10,570.00	£1,580.00	£8,990.00	£0.00	£186.79	9.7%
K557EHD	Fabia 2.1 1.4 TDI 80bhp Sdr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£11,655.00	£2,165.00	£9,490.00	£0.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ08YBE	Fabia 2.1 1.4 TDI 80bhp Sdr Hatch	FLAMENCO RED	£12,815.00	£1,825.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL08DDY	Fabia 1.1 1.2 12v 70bhp Sdr Estate	STORM BLUE	£9,890.00	£1,400.00	£8,490.00	£0.00	£176.57	9.7%
GJ08YBF	Fabia 2.1 1.4 16v 85bhp Sdr Estate	STORM BLUE	£11,800.00	£1,510.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GK08ZNM	Fabia 2.1 1.4 16v 85bhp Sdr Estate	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£11,450.00	£1,160.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08YBK	Roomster 2.1 1.6 16v 105bhp MPV	OLIVE GREEN	£12,375.00	£2,585.00	£9,790.00	£250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08YBG	Roomster 2.1 1.4 TDI 80bhp Sdr MPV	FLAMENCO RED	£12,965.00	£2,675.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08YLR	Roomster Scout 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr MPV	POLAR BLUE	£15,390.00	£3,100.00	£12,290.00	£2,750.00	£198.04	9.6%
K557EEA	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr Hatch	BRIGHT SILVER	£15,150.00	£3,160.00	£11,990.00	£2,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ08YAU	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£15,300.00	£2,310.00	£12,990.00	£3,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL57YKV	Octavia Elegance 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£16,170.00	£2,180.00	£13,990.00	£4,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GK08ZNX	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDI 140bhp Sdr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£20,070.00	£2,580.00	£17,490.00	£5,500.00	£248.14	9.4%
GJ08YAV	Octavia Ambiente 2.0 TDI DSG 140bhp Sdr Estate	STORM BLUE	£17,135.00	£2,445.00	£14,690.00	£2,750.00	£247.12	9.4%
GL08YRC	Octavia L&K 2.0 FSI AUTO 150bhp Sdr Estate	ISLAND GREEN	£20,595.00	£2,605.00	£17,990.00	£6,000.00	£248.14	9.4%
GK08ZNY	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDI 140bhp Sdr Estate	STORM BLUE	£21,125.00	£2,835.00	£18,290.00	£6,250.00	£249.16	9.4%
GJ08YXL	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDI DSG 140bhp Sdr Estate	BRIGHT SILVER	£22,470.00	£2,980.00	£19,490.00	£7,500.00	£248.14	9.4%
KV57BVX	Superb Elegance 2.0 TDI 140bhp Saloon	BLACK MAGIC	£20,690.00	£5,200.00	£15,490.00	£3,500.00	£248.14	9.6%

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REG. NO.	MODEL / ENGINE	COLOUR	WAS	SAVING	PRICE TO YOU	DEPOSIT	60 MONTHLY	APR
GL07TTY	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr Hatch	CORRIDA RED	£11,990.00	£1,500.00	£10,490.00	£1,000.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL07CFV	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDI 105bhp Sdr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£11,990.00	£1,500.00	£10,490.00	£1,000.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL07CFJ	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDI DSG 105bhp Sdr Hatch	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£12,290.00	£1,500.00	£10,790.00	£1,250.00	£198.04	9.6%

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ALFA ROMEO

146 TI, 5 door, p 1996, a car that will one day become a collectors item. this car is a 2 owner from new with full service history mainly main dealer. It has the 2.0 engine which produces 150bhp, along with a 5 speed manual gearbox. a test drive is welcome as well as any inspection. px is available against this car. red, 94000 miles, £1495, Courtney Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

SPIDER, 3.2 V6, g57ffly, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, blue, 29000 miles, £20995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

ARNAGE, red label auto, 2001, biennial silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £44950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CONTINENTAL, remote alarm, remote central locking, tracker fitted, full leather, heated seats, colour satnav, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, cd player, multi-disc cd player, television, 19" alloys, 4x4, portland leather trim with nautic blue leather dash and door inserts vat qualifying, moonbeam silver metallic, 29000 miles, £54995, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialists, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7v6 auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NEON, 2.0 LXI, 1995 (n), 95 (n) chrysler neon 2.0 bi automatic, 5 door saloon, metallic green coachwork with contrasting grey velour trim, original hi-fi, only 1 owner from new, low mileage miles, £395, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

DAEWOO NUBIRA, 4 door saloon, 06 2000, 1.6 p se auto, metallic silver, £500, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

LANOS, 3 Dr, w/06env, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, stereo, red, 73000 miles, £1699, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

TACUMA, CDX 1998cc 5 door, 2002, abs brakes, air con, alloy wheels, immobiliser, electric windows, met blue, 85000 miles, £2495, Northdown Road Motor Company, Margate, 01843 290890 (TRADE)

FIAT

BRAVO 100 SX, 2001 "y", a medium sized car with a 1.6 engine, pas clock s/hist very reasonably priced, a new mot test will be included, blue, 75, 000 miles, £1495, Courtney Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

CINQUECENTO, m/1994, manual locking manual windows, red, 74, 000 miles, Ewas 1995 nov 1995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 16v, 1995, red, 72451 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

DOBLO, Bonhoffa Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, av/05nw, bonhoffa conversion, hot cabinet, cold cabinet, 3x access hatches, hand wash, led internal lighting, white, 29000 miles, £10000, BHRV, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, wr/07hc, blue, 5810 miles, £3495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PUNTO, Jld Van, ov/04vkt, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, abs, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, stereo, grey, 49000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

ISUZU

TROOPER, Citiom 3.5 V6 LWB, 1999 (t), 99 (t) 4x4 izuzu trooper citation 3.5 v6 lwb auto, 5 door, stunning met green coachwork with contrasting velour trim, service history, alloy wheels, cd hi-fi, low bar and twin electric pack, + much more, never taken off road, stunning condition. metallic green, 93000 miles, £3995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE 3.0, 2003 (03), 03 (53) jaguar s-type v6 3.0 se auto, metallic silver coachwork with grey leather trim, only 42000 miles, power and memory seats, memory steering wheel position, air conditioning/climate control, electric windows, cd multiplayer with hi-fi pack, multiple air bags, electronic park brake, on board computer, cruise control, traction control, tinted glass, alloy wheels, metallic silver, £9995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

X-TYPE 2.5 V6 SE Saloon 4d 2495cc, 52 2002, 1 owner, service history, electric windows, central locking, power assisted steering, on board telephone controls, radio cassette, volume and radio controls on steering wheel, immaculate condition, ivory leather trim, gold, 19000 miles, £10995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

XJ V8, 4.0 sovereign lwb, 2002, seafrost blue met with cabin leather interior, 71000 miles, £3950, James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI GS 5dr, g07jwp, air-conditioning, abs + ebd, air, cd player, insurance group:10, red, 17900 miles, £9994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

MAGENTIS, Le 16v, eo54yon, anti-theft system, immobiliser, rear headrests, rear armrest, power steering, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

PICANTO, 1.1 LS, 2007, insurance group 3 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag front electric windows passenger airbag power steering radio/od steering wheel rake adjustment, liquid silver, 6963 miles, £5995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

SORENTO, XS 2.5, g06vxc, finished in blue with interior, blue, 16000 miles, £9985, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

A CLASS, A150 Avantgarden SE Lwb 5dr, vu55ave, alloy wheels, aluminium silver, 21000 miles, £3995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

C CLASS, C180k Avantgarden SE, 4763314, alloy wheels, cubanite silver, 14000 miles, £17995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

SLK, 1.8 SLK200 Kompressor Convertible 2d 1796cc auto, 56, alloys, chrome prsp, parktronic, climate, cruise, cd changer, fish, cubanite silver with black leather, under 6, 500 miles, £21995, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

MINI

COOPER, 1.6 3dr Manual ** TWIN SUNROOFS**", alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cassette, side airbags, 3313 miles, £6990, SMC Ford Grayford, Grayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

207, 1.6 SPT, finished in orange with interior, orange, 23000 miles, £7555, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

207, S, air conditioning, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, metallic paint, passenger airbag, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, blue, 500 miles, £3495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

207 CC, 1.6 Turbo GT, air conditioning, alarm, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, cd multichanger, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, side airbags, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, blue, 150 miles, £15995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

306, LX 5dr, v935njw, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, multiple airbags, child locks, abs, power steering, automatic electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, aluminium silver, 40000 miles, £2995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

306, Roadster 16v, 897461, remote central locking, full leather, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric windows, cd player, factory hard top, front fog lamps, 15" alloys, blue, 49000 miles, £3499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

306, 1.90 Turbo (a/c) Estate 5d 1905cc, r 1997, central locking, remote mirrors, electric windows, srs, airbag, radio cassette, air conditioning, 5 speed gearbox, power assisted steering, seat height adjuster, parcel shelf and large boot, factory fitted roof rails, very clean family car, metallic silver, miles, £2995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

306, XSI 5 dr, 1998 "r", a 2.0 litre engine producing 130bhp making these models very popular. the car has power steering, remote central locking sun roof abs electric front windows mirrors, service history, blue, 116, 000 miles, £1495, Courtney Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

306, 1.4, 1998, met red, 85046 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

307, 2.0HDI 110 GLX (dig a/c) Hatchback 5d 1997cc (2001), 2003, top of the range in lovely metallic green, green, miles, £3999.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911 CARRERA 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

911 TURBO, 3.6 manual, 2003, black metallic with black leather, 17800 miles, £49950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

SAAB

9-3, Arc, 03, 03 plate top of the range 9-3 (new shape, 2 litre 150 tip low pressure turbo good for 35-37 mpg, fish, all extras including- multi airbags, bi-xenon headlights, electricdrivers seat, heated front seats, cream leather, parking sensors, cruise control, comprehensive on board computer, premium sound system, single cd, dual side climate control, alloys in good condition, 12 months mot 6 months tax, good condition generally, highish mileage (mostly motorway miles and done by me). a classy looking car and fantastic value. merlot red, £3500, Folkestone, 0776560824 (PRIVATE)

SAN

SANTA FE, 2.7 V6 Station Wagon 5d 2566cc auto, v6766kr, abs braking system, leather interior, foglights, power steering, remote locking, 4 x 4, radio / cd, folding rear seats, gold metallic, 33000 miles, £4995, E-SSURED Cars UK Broadstairs, 0845 6447751 (TRADE)

SKODA

SKODA OCTAVIA ESTATE CAR, 03 2000, 2.0 j air/con elec windows 80.000 miles blue fish no vat, £1485, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CADDY, w, very low mileage, white, 25, 000 miles, £1989, Bob Fisher Garage, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

SMART

FORTWO COUPE, 2005, pulse 2dr auto, silver, 11726 miles, £4995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

SUBARU

IMPREZA, wrx turbo, 2004, red, 38000 miles, £10995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

RAV-4, Nrg VTI-4 auto, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, cd, 15" alloys, 4x4, aluminium silver, 68000 miles, £3699, Marshams, 01622 200 100 (TRADE), passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, blue, 9000 miles, £20995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

YARIS, T Spirit VTI-13dr, cp/06wne, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, power steering, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric front windows, alloy wheels, venetian silver, 8000 miles, £7995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

YARIS, Verso T Spirit VTI-1, gv/05ghz, central locking, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear headrests, roof rails, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, multiple airbags, abs, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, 14" alloys, green, 23000 miles, £7995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

ASTRA, 2007, metro blue, 14513 miles, £7295, WJ King Vauxhall, Gravesend, 01474 565656 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2007, star silver, 21390 miles, £7495, WJ King Vauxhall, Gravesend, 01474 565656 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2007, metro blue, 19655 miles, £7495, WJ King Vauxhall, Gravesend, 01474 565656 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2008, ultra blue, 10906 miles, £7295, WJ King Vauxhall, Gravesend, 01474 565656 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2008, silver lightning, 20844 miles, £6995, WJ King Vauxhall, Dartford, 01322 227581 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2005, red, 19234 miles, £5995, WJ King Vauxhall, Welling, 020 8303 1234 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2005, panacotta, 16404 miles, £6295, WJ King Vauxhall, Welling, 020 8303 1234 (TRADE)



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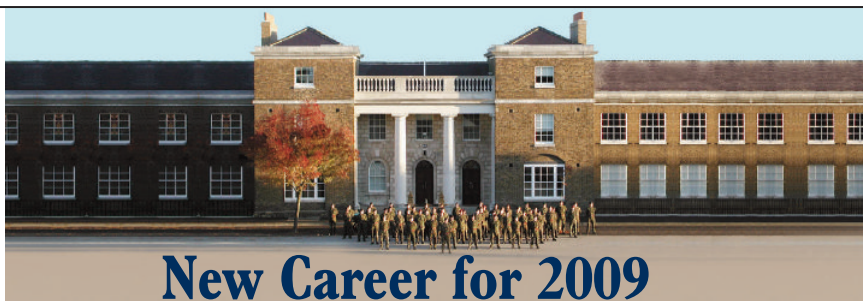
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Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Margate
Ref: 767-EIC594
Closing date: 20/11/08

Job Title: Staff Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Margate
Ref: 767-EIC593
Closing date: 20/11/08

Job Title: Diabetes Specialist Nurse
Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Folkestone Health Centre
Ref: 767-ASH217
Closing date: 21/11/08

Job Title: Intermediate Care Support Nurse
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Dover / Deal
Ref: 767-EIC605
Closing date: 27/11/08

ADDITIONAL CLINICAL SERVICES

Job Title: Rehab Support Worker
Salary: £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Band: 3
Hours: 37.5
Location: Herne Bay, Canterbury, Swale
Ref: 767-EIC585
Closing date: 20/11/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapy Technical Instructor
Salary: £14,834 - £17,732
Band: 3
Hours: 37.5
Location: Whitstable, Kent
Ref: 767-ECC591
Closing date: 21/11/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapy Technical Instructor

Salary: £14,834 - £17,732
Band: 3
Hours: 29
Location: Sittingbourne, Kent
Ref: 767-ECC578
Closing date: 21/11/08

Job Title: Keyworker
Salary: £17,316 to £20,818 pa
Band: 4
Hours: 37.5
Location: Kent and Canterbury Hospital
Ref: 767-ASH221
Closing date: 21/11/08

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Job Title: Health Promotion Practitioner Specialist
Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Dover
Ref: 767-ECC584
Closing date: 21/11/08

Job Title: Specialist Intermediate Care Dietitian
Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Deal, Dover, Thanet, Ashford, Canterbury, Shepway, Herne Bay, Swale.
Ref: 767-ASH132
Closing date: 21/11/08

Job Title: Therapy Assistant Practitioner

Salary: £17,316 to £20,818 pa
Band: 4
Hours: 18.75
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-ASH209
Closing date: 23/11/08

Job Title: Occupational Therapist
Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Folkestone
Ref: 767-EIC612
Closing date: 27/11/08

Job Title: Occupational Therapist
Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-EIC609
Closing date: 27/11/08

Job Title: Psycho-Social Occupational Therapist x2

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Folkestone
Ref: 767-EIC559
Closing date: 29/11/08

Job Title: Occupational Therapist (Learning Disabilities)
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 18.75
Location: Broadstairs
Ref: 767-ASH225
Closing date: 30/11/08

For further information and to apply, please visit www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk or call 01227 866450.

We are an equal opportunities employer Committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

Saint George's
Church of England, Voluntary Aided,
Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School
Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082
Fax: 01474 533844
ACTING HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

CARETAKER

Full time post - 37 hours per week
Salary Kent Scheme Band 4, points 11-14 (£15,826 to £16,627 p.a.)

General maintenance and caretaking duties, working alternate shift patterns: A: 05:00 to 14:00 (3/5 days) and 05:00 to 13:30 (2/5 days)
B: 13:00 to 22:00 (3/5 days), 13:30 to 22:00 (1/5 days) and 13:30 to 19:30 (1/5 days).

Good team working skills and the ability to interact positively with students are essential. The appointment is subject to List99 and Criminal Records Bureau checks.

Please contact us to request further details and an application form. Email dharwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Candidates will be invited for interview w/c 01 December 2008.
Closing Date : Wednesday 26 November 2008

ifield School
Ifield Special School, Cedar Avenue,
Gravesend, Kent DA12 5JT
Telephone: 01474 365485

BUS DRIVER

20 hours per week term-time only
New Kent Scheme Grade 3 – Points 7 to 11
(£13,959 to £15,826 per annum pro-rata)

We have a vacancy for a part-time Driver. The successful candidate will be responsible for transporting pupils to and from the school at the beginning and end of the day and for overseeing the school vehicles. There will also be opportunities to assist with maintenance and caretaking duties.

The successful candidate will need to be flexible and self-motivated, have good communication skills and a valid mini-bus licence.

For a job description and application form please contact the headteacher, Mrs Pam Jones.

Website: www.ifieldschool.com

E-mail: ifieldschool@aol.com

Closing date: 28 November 2008

Appointment to this position will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check.

Voluntary Services Assistant circa £13-14k

Working alongside the Voluntary Services Manager based in Sittingbourne as part of the Human Resources team, you will assist with the recruitment, induction, training and on-going support of volunteers to help us deliver our services throughout Kent, East Sussex and South London.

You must be:-

- ◆ Computer literate with Microsoft Office applications
- ◆ An excellent communicator at all levels with endless patience
- ◆ Organised with a flair for complex issues
- ◆ Methodical in approach to administration work
- ◆ Hold a full driving licence
- ◆ Adaptable to constantly changing priorities and workload

Required for 37 hours per week to include some occasional weekend and evening working. Experience of the voluntary sector a distinct advantage.

For an informal discussion contact Lynne Clark, Voluntary Services Manager on 01795 845218. For an application pack please visit our website on www.demelza.org.uk or contact our Recruitment Line on 01795 845295.

Closing Date Friday 28th November, 2008

An Enhanced Disclosure check will be required for the successful applicant.
Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy.
Registered Office Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ



DELCE JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Tideway, Rochester, Kent
Telephone 01634 845242

Due to our increasing popularity, the governors wish to appoint an enthusiastic, experienced teaching assistant to join our well established team.

The position is temporary, 17.5 hours per week, term time only, for a fixed term period of 1st January 2009 until 31st August 2009.

We are looking for someone who:

- Is committed to the highest standards of pupils learning and achievement
- Has good numeracy and literacy skills
- Is well organised and highly motivated
- Is dynamic and enthusiastic
- Energetic, with a well developed sense of fun
- Either holds Teaching Assistant qualifications e.g. HNVQ level 2 or 3 or can demonstrate equivalent experience

In return we can offer you:

- Active support for professional and career development
- An attractive, well resourced and maintained environment
- The opportunity to make a real difference in a caring school
- A work/life balance

Informal visits to the school are both welcomed and encouraged, please contact Mrs Julia Knight, School Business Manager, on the number above to make an appointment.

Please send an S.A.E. to Mrs Julia Knight for an application form and further details. The closing date for return of applications is 28th November 2008.

An Offer of appointment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure and references satisfactory to the Head teacher.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Receptionist/Management PA
One of the UK's leading book producers, based in Lordswood, Chatham requires an experienced Receptionist/Management PA to undertake all aspects of reception duties and providing personal assistant support to the senior management team.

Applicants must be very customer focussed, have excellent telephone and communication skills and be well organised. The role includes general administration, and minute taking at various meetings as part of the PA role. Successful candidate must be pro-active in approach with a proven ability to multi-task.

To apply: Send CV's and information on current remuneration by e-mail to cbarnes@cpigroup.co.uk by 26 November 2008.

The Towers School
Faversham Road, Kennington
Ashford, Kent TN24 9AL
Tel: 01233 634171 • Fax: 01233 628326
Email: admin@towers.kent.sch.uk
11 – 19 Kent High School
1400 Students on roll (320 in 6th Form)

Teacher of Mathematics (Full or Part-Time) • required as soon as possible MPS + TLR 2a (£5,921)

Ofsted in May 2008 described Towers as a 'good school', and this is a key post in the future development of the school as we strive towards 'outstanding'. We are a successful Business and Enterprise specialist school, with Full Service Extended School status, and with one of the largest Sixth Forms in the County.

We are looking to recruit an additional Mathematics Teacher to join this strong and supportive department. The successful candidate will work with the Lead Teacher focussing on students that are predicted to achieve C/D at the end of Key Stage 4. The school has made significant gains in Math's outcomes in the last 3 years and this post will help achieve 50% + this year.

Applications are by CV and covering letter by email on admin@towers.kent.sch.uk, fax on 01233 628326 or post. Please mark for the attention of Mrs Kyla Weeden. All applications should be received by Wednesday, 26th November 2008. Interviews will be held the following week.

BeneCare Fostering
OFSTED REGISTERED
Can you provide a safe and caring home for vulnerable children? We would love to hear from you if you are interested or involved in Fostering and would like additional information. Full training and support provided in addition to excellent rates of pay.
For details please contact 01732 746697
Info@benecarefostering.co.uk
www.benecarefostering.co.uk

Foster carers wanted
The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.
Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk
The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP

Required for January 2009
KS1 Teacher
(a fixed term appointment until August 2009, to teach a delightful class of Year 2 pupils)
Applications are invited from both experienced and newly qualified teachers. Please state your areas of expertise and special interests.
Contact the school or **www.kent-teach.com** for an application form, person specification and job description. Informal visits are warmly invited.
Charing Church of England (Aided) Primary School
School Road, Charing, Ashford, TN27 0JN
Telephone: 01233 712277
Email: office@charing.kent.sch.uk
Closing date: 24.11.08
Interview date: wc 01.12.08
Appointment to this post will be subject to an advanced Criminal Records Bureau check

achievement employability experience development



Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Lecturer Automotive Engineering

37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

Lecturer Health & Social Care

37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

Lecturer Independent Living and Leisure Skills

37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

Lecturer Early Years

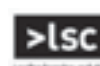
37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

For an application pack please visit **www.canterburycollege.ac.uk** or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 24th November 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme



Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

achievement employability experience development

Sheppey College

Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Supply Lecturer Skills for Working Life SH/SFL

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above post is Monday 24th November 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer



achievement employability experience development

Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Curriculum Support Assistant within the Faculty of Engineering & Construction 08/148

37 hrs per week, 40 weeks term time, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

Apprentice Administration Assistant within the Faculty of Engineering & Construction 08/149

Full time Apprenticeship, salary £90 per week.
Fixed Term post for the duration of the Apprenticeship

Night Cleaners 08/22

20 hrs per week, salary £6.42 per hour

Supply NVQ Assessors Hospitality & Catering S/NVQ/HC

Various hours available, salary range £18,295 – £26,232 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 24th November 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer



ETHELBERT CHILDRENS SERVICES
"Working and Caring for Children since 1972"

Full-time Teacher

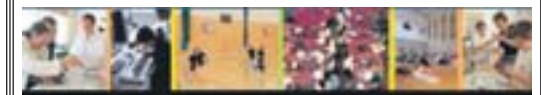
Due to continued expansion and growth, the above vacancy has arisen in our EBD Schools for pupils in Key Stages 2 – 4; all of whom have emotional and behavioural difficulties. EBD experience preferable but not essential as support and training will be given. A flexible approach to teaching is important.

Salary depending on experience, post to commence asap

Closing date: Friday 21st November

Please contact the Personnel Department for an application form:
Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ 01843 823762

We are an equal opportunities employer



Marlowe Academy
Stirling Way, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6NB

Tele: 01843 593326 – www.marloweacademy.co.uk

To strengthen our fabulous vocational courses we have...
Vacancies for January/April 2009

ICT Teacher, Business Studies Teacher and Travel & Tourism Teacher

Now in its fourth year, Kent's first Academy continues to challenge traditional approaches and to drive up standards – over twenty students have now gone on to university and last year's 5A*-C GCSE figure topped 50%. It offers students an innovative and exciting learning experience. We have outstanding purpose built facilities with the very latest ICT; in addition to laptops and PCs in classrooms, there are 200+ computers in learning bays and teaching areas. Some students are independent learners, using laptops in lessons and in study. The Academy also boasts excellent sports facilities.

This is an amazing opportunity for talented and ambitious professionals to join the academy. The posts would suit energetic and student focused teachers.

Please send a copy of your C.V. to the school or email
jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.

Please contact Jennifer Spooner on direct telephone no: 01843

598550 or email to address above.

We look forward to hearing from you.

The closing date for post: Thursday, 4th December 2008



justonestep

Construction skills tutors are required in Brick Laying, Woodwork and Painting & Decorating. We also require a construction skills technician

Salary: £25 – £35k pro rata Negotiable + benefits
(competitive depending on qualifications)

Location: Rochester, Kent

Closing Date: 18th November

Start Date: December 2008

Contract period: December 2008 – July 2009.

Description:

Justonestep is expanding its operations and is seeking to strengthen its team with three Construction Tutors to teach construction skills at level 1 with young adults in a secure centre. We wish to recruit committed individuals in return for a competitive salary, funded CPD and an excellent working environment.

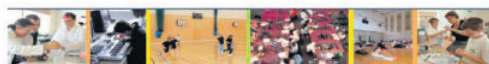
The ideal candidate will hold a recognised qualification in an area of construction (e.g. plastering, brick laying etc) such as NVQ or appropriate experience. Training and support to achieve a formal qualification and mentoring from members of staff will be provided to the successful candidate if required.

Candidates must provide evidence of extensive experience in their field of expertise and demonstrate a desire to pass on their skills and experience to learners. Previous experience of teaching in a construction related area will be a distinct advantage.

Whilst it is beneficial for candidates to be working towards or to hold a recognised teaching certificate, NVQ Assessor Award (A1) and Internal Verifier Award (V1), Justonestep will provide funding for the right candidate to achieve these qualifications if necessary. In this case, all professional development will be completed during working hours and the successful candidate will be given remission from normal duties to complete required qualifications.

This is an exciting opportunity to join a young and vibrant company and so if you are a committed, hard working, supportive, flexible team member and have the ability to relate to a wide range of people, we would like to hear from you.

To apply for this role please contact **Dan Hayes** on **07786 636 177** for an informal chat, or e-mail your CV with covering letter to admin@justonestep.co.uk



Marlowe Academy
Stirling Way, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6NB
Tele: 01843 593326
www.marloweacademy.co.uk

Vacancies for January/April 2009
for
Teachers of Science
one permanent and one temporary

Now in its fourth year, Kent's first Academy continues to challenge traditional approaches and to drive up standards – over twenty students have now gone on to university and last year's 5A*-C GCSE figure topped 50%. It offers students an innovative and exciting learning experience. We have outstanding purpose built facilities with the very latest ICT; in addition to laptops and PCs in classrooms, there are 200+ computers in learning bays and teaching areas. Some students are independent learners, using laptops in lessons and in study. The Academy also boasts excellent sports facilities.

This is an amazing opportunity for talented and ambitious professionals to join the academy. The posts would suit energetic and student focused teachers.

Please send a copy of your C.V. to the school or email
jennifer.spooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.
Please contact Jennifer Spooner on direct telephone no: 01843 595550 or email to address above.

We look forward to hearing from you.
The closing date for post: Thursday, 11th December 2008



NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ

We are seeking to appoint

PASTORAL SUPPORT OFFICER

£13,272-£14,598 p.a.

35 Hours per week (8.15 am to 3.45 p.m.) Term Time Only

We require a Pastoral Support Officer to work with our team in providing pastoral support to ensure high quality learning for all students.

The role will involve

- Running the school inclusion room (an alternative to fixed term exclusion)
- Dealing with parental enquiries through telephone and face-to-face meetings including investigation and mediation.
- Promoting good attendance, attitudes and behaviour at all times
- Assisting with a range of administrative support including support to exclusion, discipline and other student related meetings.

A flexible approach to working and the ability to work as part of a team and under your own initiative are essential. Good communication skills at all levels are essential.

Experience of working with young people in an educational, Youth and Community or similar environment would be an advantage.

We also will be appointing

QUALIFIED TEACHER OF PERFORMING ARTS

January 2009 start

KS3 and including BTEC and A Level in the Performing Arts

Please submit full CV giving details of previous experience and the name of two referees to the Mrs S Chisholm, Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ or email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: 20 November 2008

Pioneering initiatives. Changing lives.

Office Assistant

£14,142 - £16,217 • 37 HOURS PER WEEK • CHATHAM

You will be the first point of contact to all callers, visitors and Service Users at KCA's Day Programme based at Throwley House, Chatham. Confident in handling enquiries about the service whether by telephone, email, post or in person, you'll ensure that enquiries are dealt with promptly, efficiently and courteously.

Offering support to KCA Day Programmes and the off-site Administrator, you will have top MS Office skills and a 'can do' approach. You will be able to communicate with a wide cross-section of staff and external contacts in a highly professional manner. You need to be able to prioritise, work to tight deadlines and respond appropriately to referrals.

If you would like to discuss this post informally, please contact Linda Ranger, Service Manager Day Programmes on 01795 439409 or Christine Gordon, Admin Lead on 01795 590795 ext:2.

An application form and job description can be downloaded from <http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html> or email recruitment@kca.org.uk. Alternatively, you can write to KCA(UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference: 531.

Closing date: Friday 28 November 2008.

Interview date: Wednesday 10 December 2008.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk



HMP BLANTYRE HOUSE >

EXTRAORDINARY JOBS. EXTRAORDINARY WORKPLACE.

HMP Blantyre House is a semi open resettlement Prison with approximately 120 male prisoners that is situated in a rural location near Goudhurst.

INDUSTRIAL CATERER (GRADE 3) £19,851 - £21,074 PER ANNUM

39 hour conditioned week excluding meal breaks and one weekend out of every two.

Primarily based at HMP Blantyre House, you'll be a member of our catering staff responsible to the Catering Group Manager. Preparing and cooking all food products within the kitchen, you'll also supervise work carried out by prisoners working in the kitchen.

Ensuring all food is prepared and stored in accordance with General Food Hygiene Regulations, you'll make sure clearing schedules are fully adhered to. You'll also instruct prisoners on food preparation, hygiene and safety, and the maintenance of safe and hygienic conditions. In addition to this, you'll co-ordinate learning plans for prisoners, carry out rub down searches prior to prisoners leaving the kitchen, and be 'on call' during operational emergencies. To join us you should have a City & Guilds 706/1, 706/2 (or equivalent) and a Basic Food Hygiene Certificate. Treating security as a matter of priority is a vital aspect to this role, as is the need for a calm, motivated, consistent, constructive and resilient approach to your work and environment.

Benefits include 25 days annual leave plus 10.5 days public and privilege holidays per annum. The Civil Service offers a choice of final salary and stakeholder pensions, giving you the flexibility to choose the pension that suits you best. The probation period for this role is 12 months.

To obtain a full job description and application pack for this role, please apply to Nicky Everest, K&S Area Recruitment Office Field Based Team, Sir Evelyn Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3PZ. Tel 01634 673078, fax 01634 673050 or email nicola.everest@hmps.gsi.gov.uk

Closing date: Friday 21 November 2008.

This post is open to part-time and job share applicants. You will be required to declare whether you are a member of a group or organisation, which the Prison Service considers to be racist. The Prison Service is an equal opportunities employer. We welcome applications from candidates regardless of ethnic origin, religious belief, gender, age (subject to being within the normal retirement age for the grade), sexual orientation, disability or any other irrelevant factor.

We are committed to promoting the benefits of a diverse workforce.



New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering Course Designer

Salary £28,000 to £30,312 per annum

MidKent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

If you are a Course Designer and would enjoy using your skills and experience to help develop the Military artisans of tomorrow, then this could be the ideal opportunity for you.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development.

Whilst you will already have skills, qualifications and experience relevant for this post, you will be fully supported and encouraged to gain further appropriate qualifications and accreditation that will develop you as an individual and benefit the RSME.

If this sounds like the right role for you – get in touch now

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 30th November 2008

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MidKent College is an equal opportunity employer



MKC Training Services Limited
at The Royal School of Military Engineering

Be the first
in line to
receive the
latest top
Kent jobs

Register your details
and we'll email you daily
with new jobs that match
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The smart way to find
a job in the County

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yourlocal professionals

Advertise your business on yourkenttv.co.uk – the Kent local search directory
find out more about us and our products and services online

TO ADVERTISE



Email us at classified@kosmedia.co.uk



Telephone us on 01303 817150



Fax us on 01303 817001

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If you have noticed this advertisement, so have your potential customers!

To advertise your business on our "your professionals" page, call Maria on

01303 817152

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Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm
Sunday 10am-4pm

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Aquatic needs:

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Coldwater and Ponds

www.littlefishshop.co.uk



COOKERS & STOVES

G. C. STEVENS & SON

Wood/Multi Fuel Stoves and Cookers – Fine Liners



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www.gcstevens.co.uk Email: info@gcstevens.co.uk

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Competitive edge to open day on campus

MANUFACTURING businesses are being invited to attend an open day at the new Renishaw Centre for Manufacturing Productivity, at the University of Greenwich at Medway, on Wednesday, November 26.

The centre will demonstrate the latest technology and manufacturing systems aimed at making businesses more competitive.

Centre manager Ian Cakebread said: "This is an opportunity to see how the centre can benefit your business with a range of practical training courses, and access to the latest tools and systems."

Register at www.renishaw.info/greenwich or by calling Mr Cakebread on 01634 883858.

Network sees value in the price of experience

MATURE students got top marks at a recent conference highlighting increasing participation of part-time and older students in higher education held by the Kent and Medway Lifelong Learning Network.

Professor Bill Jones, a leading education consultant, gave an overview of adult education, saying: "Mature students tend to be highly motivated and extremely rewarding to teach."

"They also tend to do well with a higher proportion of firsts and upper seconds degree pass marks."

"They usually have busy lives outside the course and with their life experience and maturity, they are highly valuable for study mentors to young students."

Why the sky's the limit

MARKETING innovation and ruthless cost-cutting led to a new breed of air carrier, such as easyJet and Ryanair.

This was marketing guru Tony Anderson's theme at a recent Kent Annual Marketing Lecture, organised by Business Link and the Kent branch of the Chartered Institute of Marketing.

Branch chairman Ian Lockyer said: "He showed us how good marketing makes simplicity a virtue and how low cost does not have to mean low quality. EasyJet's success is a shining example to all marketers."

Kent branch Student of the Year was won by Neil Wilkins of AXA PPP Healthcare, who achieved the highest marks in the CIM's 2008 postgraduate diploma exams.

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See how Construction Expo 2008 was put together. Search 'expo'

Expo firms open the door to youngsters

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

YOUNGSTERS can look forward to gaining first-hand experience of the working world, thanks to the support of businesses in Medway and across the county.

Thirty-six firms have agreed to open their doors to teenagers in the coming months, after signing up to the House of Pledges agreement at KOS Media's successful Construction Expo 2008, held at Chatham Historic Dockyard in September.

The companies will offer a selection of apprenticeships, work experience, site visits and school visits for children and young people, with placements stretching from Dartford to Sheppey.

This was the second year the House of Pledges had set up a stand at the Construction Expo and organisers said the response was overwhelming.

Medway council's economic growth chief, Jane Chitty, said: "The House of Pledges gives business leaders the opportunity to give something back to the community by providing young people with the prospect of working with them through a work experience programme and learning incentives."

Glenys Gilbert-Collins, from North Kent Construction Skills, said: "One of the main concerns is to provide the appropriate skills needed to underpin regeneration across Kent and Medway and to ensure that local people and businesses have every opportunity to share in the benefits."

"The House of Pledges asked employers to offer training opportunities."

"The offer could be an apprenticeship, work experience for a school, college or university student, an industrial placement for a teacher or a school visit representing the industry."

"The response we had was overwhelming."

"With the new diploma in construction and the built environment taking off this year, the House of Pledges was the perfect vehicle to create new industrial placements opportuni-



OUTSPOKEN: Designer Wayne Hemingway was a keynote speaker at Construction Expo 2008 in Chatham

ties. Employers like the idea of giving young people a chance and at the same time seeing if they would want to employ that young person in the future. It's a kind of 'try before you buy' model. Everyone wins."

Companies who would like to pledge can do so online by filling out a registration form. For details log on to www.nokcs.co.uk/make-a-pledge.html. Diplomas in construction and the built environment were also launched at the

Expo. The new qualification will be available for students aged 14 to 19 from September 2009. The qualification will give young people the skills needed for work or a university degree in construction management, building services engineering, housing practice, planning or architecture.

To find out more about the diplomas, visit www.direct.gov.uk/dipomas or www.connexions-direct.com.



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Medway top Gillingham in derby thriller



BRAGGING RIGHTS: Colin Chapman scores Medway's fourth try set up a win against Gillingham Anchorians

A LATE Glen Wadsworth penalty gave Medway victory over their local rivals Gillingham Anchorians in a pulsating game at Priestfields.

An eighth successive league victory kept Taff Gwilliam's side top of Kent 1 but they came close to losing, despite building a 24-point lead by half-time.

In the first competitive meeting between the sides for several years, the home side began well and Roger Rhyneheart scored an early unconverted try.

A Wadsworth penalty made it 8-0 but a handling error allowed George Webb to sprint clear and put Anchorians on the score board.

With the wind at their backs, Medway, dominated the remainder of the half. Ben Wadsworth finished a flowing move, convert-

RUGBY

Medway 32

Gillingham Anchorians 29

ed by brother Glen to make it 15-5. Scrum-half Dafydd Ruffel strengthened Medway's grip on the game, with Wadsworth again on target with the conversion.

When Colin Chapman crossed for the home side's fourth try of the half, Medway's winning run looked certain to continue. Wadsworth added the extras to send them in 29-5 up at the break.

Anchorians were far from beaten, however,

and an early converted try from Adam Davidson set the tone for a comeback.

Two more tries got the visitors to within one score of Medway, who had Rob Ellis sin binned. Dayne Glassey joined him to leave the hosts with only 13 men and Anchorians' forwards took advantage to rumble over for a try to level the scores.

The conversion would have edged them in front, but it was missed to leave the game evenly poised at 29-29.

In a rare excursion into Anchorians' half, Medway won a penalty which Wadsworth kicked over to seal a dramatic victory.

This Saturday both sides are in Junior Vase action. Medway travel to Wandsworth to play Bec Old Boys, while Anchorians are away to Thames.

Lords slip back into the losing habit

LORDSWOOD failed to build on last week's victory over Beckenham, as they crashed to a 3-1 home defeat against Greenwich Borough at North Dane Way.

The visitors took an eighth-minute lead through Monan and doubled it just two minutes later when Sissons struck.

Five minutes after the restart Sissons made it 3-0, although Mortimer managed to pull one back for the Lords two minutes from time.

Lordswood remain second from bottom of the Kent League Premier Division table and have a tough trip to VCD on Saturday, though their rivals for the wooden spoon, Sporting Bengal, lost 10-0 at Faversham.

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A lack of funds has prevented the Gills gaining new players, says Mark Stimson

Steele shows he has the right formula

RISING single-seater star Aaron Steele is on the verge of a Formula One test after receiving the final nomination for the McLaren Autosport BRDC Award.

The 19-year-old, from Chatham, joined five other young drivers vying for the award after coming through the Formula Palmer shootout at Snetterton with a second and third-place finish.

Receiving the final nomination for the award marks an impressive season for Steele, who won three times in the Enterprise Edge Formula 3 Championship.

The award, which was won by Bromley-born McLaren Formula One test driver Gary Paffett in 1999, offers young drivers a prize of £50,000, a GT1 test and F1 car test.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT
glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



PROMOTION CONTENDERS: Garry Richards was in amongst the goals and Simeon Jackson returned from injury to earn himself a call up to the Canada squad



Picture: KENTIS.ATKIN

Rotherham routed by ruthless Gills display

FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Gillingham 4

King 6, Miller 58, Richards 78, Cumbers 88

Rotherham United 0



Gillingham starting XI



Subs used: McCammon (Weston 45), Jarrett (Jackson 81), Cumbers (Barcham 84)

Richards and Luis Cumbers, also a first senior strike, gave the scoreline a flourish.

No League Two side has picked up more points at home than Gills and with an improving away record, only goal difference is keeping them out of the automatic promotion places.

Up next is another trip to Bury, scene of the 1-0 FA Cup win earlier this month. A repeat result this Saturday would raise expectations still further.

Simeon Jackson, who made a return to the side after recovering from an ankle injury, is expected to be available after a first senior international call-up for Canada against Jamaica today.

GILLINGHAM gave their clearest indication so far that they are genuine promotion contenders as they put Rotherham to the sword at Priestfield.

Their cause was helped when the visitors were reduced to ten men before half-time for a challenge both managers felt was harsh, but the manner of the victory was impressive.

Rotherham, who would be in the title chase but for their points penalty, posed arguably the toughest test at Priestfield so far this season. However, they were made to look ordinary by a Gills side buoyed with the confidence of successive away victories.

Simon King headed his first goal for the club after only six minutes and apart from one snap shot superbly tipped over by Simon Royce, the visitors were subdued.

Their hopes of taking something back to South Yorkshire were effectively ended when Danny Harrison was sent off for an overzealous tackle on Barry Fuller ten minutes before half-time.

Rotherham manager Mark Robins was

furious and felt Gills had a "game plan" to get one of his players a red card.

Gills boss Mark Stimson struck a more conciliatory tone. He said: "When [Mark and I] both played that would have been a good 50/50 tackle, or a booking at the most.

"If Mark looks at it and he needs my backing to get the lad off a suspension I will do that because I don't like seeing any player suspended."

Once Adam Miller made it 2-0 just before the hour mark the result was never in doubt. Gills went on to run the tiring visitors ragged for the remainder of the game. Late goals from Garry

Relegation battle looms for struggling Chatham

FOOTBALL

BY FRED ATKINS

Redbridge 2

Chatham Town 0

STEVE Binks admitted Chatham are in a relegation dogfight after watching his side hole themselves below the waterline in the final stages of their Ryman Division One North clash at Redbridge.

"We shot ourselves in the foot," the Chats boss told Yourmedway. "It was all of our own making. A wreckless challenge saw our player deservedly sent off and a minute after that we gave away the penalty that cost us the game."

Floodlight

The game was switched to Aveley at late notice because of floodlight problems at Redbridge's home ground and as a result just 31 paying fans turned up to watch.

There was little to choose between the sides, but Redbridge's Hakeem Araba came closest to breaking the deadlock with a 25-yarder that dipped onto the roof of the net.

Yet with the Chats' backline looking solid, the visitors looked a good bet to sneak a victory, until defender Darren

Chatham starting XI



Subs used: James (Botterill 45), Brooks (Besant 75), Maskell (O'Brien 81)

Smith suffered a rush of blood to the head 11 minutes from time and earned himself a red card.

The ten men almost immediately conceded a penalty when Richard Avery hauled down a Redbridge attacker. The referee was poised to wave play on, but gave the decision after seeing his linesman flag for the infringement.

Araba stepped up to stroke the penalty past the previously impressive Dan Ellis and with five minutes remaining, he added the second after running onto a through ball and rolling it in, despite a collision with the Chats' keeper.

Chatham are fourth from bottom of the table and Binks promised there would be changes ahead of Saturday's home fixture with Leyton.

"There's a lot of ability in this squad, but there's no getting away from the fact the we are in a relegation battle," Binks admitted.

"A gap has opened up between us and the sides above and I'm looking for a big reaction in our next game. There will be further changes."



Picture: ADRIAN LANE

DOGFIGHT: Chatham could find themselves in battle to avoid relegation after another defeat



TEAM TALK

with Gills skipper
BARRY FULLER

'I could have been seriously injured'

SATURDAY was a great result, it was a big game for us and I think a lot of people were expecting it to be close game.

The big talking point was the tackle on me which got their player sent off. I saw the tackle coming so I half-jumped it, luckily my foot wasn't planted on the pitch.

I have seen it again and I believe if I didn't jump there was a chance I could have been seriously injured. At the time the Rotherham players were saying I had cheated and tried to get him sent off, which was disappointing because I'm not that sort of player. I'm sure once they saw a replay they would know it was a bad tackle.

It changed the game because they had to change their formation and afterwards I don't think they really threatened us. We were allowed to play which made it better for us and we passed the ball around really well, especially in the second half.

Unfortunately, I picked up a booking right at the end. The Rotherham players were frustrated with the result and there was a bit of pushing. The referee thought I had started it and booked me, which I didn't think I deserved.

The way I play I'm bound to pick up a few bookings - you don't mind so much if it is a mis-timed tackle but this was a silly booking. I've had seven already this season so I need to stay out of trouble for the next few games because I don't want another suspension.

Everyone was pleased to see Luis Cumbers get his first goal. He's a good player and it will be great for his confidence. It shows how strong our squad is and we have lots of options up front now.

At the moment we are on a little run of results and it's so close at the top of the table. The key is to stay in contention at Christmas because that is when teams can start to tire. I believe then we will see the real benefits of the extra fitness work we did in the summer.



READY TO PLAY: Maidstone Rangers have benefited

Disability league is now up and running

SUCCESS stories are few and far between these days, but the creation of the county's first adult disability football league is something to shout about.

Just a year ago, disabled adults in the county had no means of competitive football as the Kent Youth Disability League only allowed children to play up to the age of 16.

As of last month this changed when a two-division league was set up after the Football Association agreed to the idea put forward by Maidstone Raiders' disability coach John Harvey and the Kent FA.

Teams from Thanet, Shepway, Larkfield, Maidstone and Canterbury have all benefitted by entering into the league, which is proving to be a huge success.

Harvey said: "The adult league is well and truly up and running. I am over the moon that adults with disability have a competitive league in which to play. Kent should be very proud of the league and the FA have shown great interest in the work we are doing."

The Maidstone coach has been impressed by the impact the league has had after its inception in October.

Mos faster than Greyhounds in winning five-goal thriller

ICE HOCKEY

Invicta Dynamos 5

Haringey Greyhounds 4

A HAT-TRICK from Milan Kostolny helped Invicta Dynamos edge past Haringey Greyhounds on Sunday and ensure they finished top of their group in the English National Ice Hockey League (ENIHL) Cup.

The victory, their seventh in as many games in the competition, guaranteed they will face theoretically an easier draw in the semi-finals.

Despite missing skipper Grant Baxter, the Mos got off to a perfect start as Kostolny burst through to open the scoring after just 31 seconds.

They hit the post twice in a blistering opening spell, but the Greyhounds levelled with a powerplay goal. Jamie Dancey's strike restored their lead at the end of the first period and Karl Lennon made it 3-1 just after the resumption.

The Greyhounds had lost all their games in the competition but refused to buckle and pulled another goal back soon afterwards.

Kostolny scored either side of the second break to keep the Mos in front. Still Haringey hung on and set up an awkward finale for the hosts as they narrowed the gap to a single goal.

The victory would have been more comfortable for Kevin Parrish's side, but Greyhounds netminder David Wride was outstanding between the pipes.

With their place in the last four assured with a game to spare, the Mos can focus on



Picture: ALAN BOURNE

STAR: AJ Smith was man of the match for the Dynamos with an excellent all-round display

their league form this weekend with a home game against Streatham Redskins this Sunday.

The club was recognised at the Medway Sports Awards last Saturday, winning the gold award for junior club of the year. Parrish picked up the bronze for coach of the year.

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